

The disease putting
our churches
at risk, page 14

THE TIMES

July 14 1977
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Setback for Government as TUC rejects wage controls

There will be no firm agreement between the Government and the TUC on a further phase of wage controls, despite the possibility of continued cooperation and partnership. Mr Healey, after a full Cabinet meeting today, is expected to make a statement to the House of Commons.

Partnership with unions possible but no certainty on prices

Mr Healey had told them on Tuesday evening that they were invited to No 10 last night. Mr Healey was also there, and significantly Mr Foot, Lord President of the Council, the plenipotentiary who helped to establish the social contract, was called in to add his weight to the Government's scales. But from the beginning the meeting was no more than consultative. Apparently Mr Callaghan, reinforced by the Chancellor and Mr Foot, explained that the Government had its duty to do and must go ahead with the economic proposals on the new assumptions created by the failure to renew a tight wage policy for a third year. The White Paper will bear on the Finance Bill, which starts its report stage in full House today. Mr Healey has to decide whether to change the course of the Government's economic policy to reduce the standard rate of income tax by 1p in the pound, an offer he made on Budget day, contingent on a third year of agreed wage restraints.

He must also decide whether to accept or moderate the Rooker-Wise amendment, carried against the Government in the committee stage upstairs, to increase personal allowances at a cost of £450m. The amendment would increase the basic rate of income tax from 30 to 33 per cent, but it has become politically embarrassing for the Chancellor to claw back the money at the cost of a stand-up row with Labour backbenchers.

Unquestionably the Government's economic strategy has now been made vulnerable at a time when several senior ministers genuinely believe that another year of pay restraint at a level below the rate of inflation would have brought Labour out on to an electorally sound platform.

Some trade union leaders see as



Mr Len Murray leaving Downing Street after talks last night.

clearly as the Prime Minister and the Chancellor that the Government's prospects in the next general election onwards have been compromised by the failure to renew the social contract, even if it is succeeded in the end by an informal understanding between the Government and the TUC.

Prices must now become the Government's best argument to keep wage demands within reasonable limits, in terms both of amounts and time. The 12-month interval between pay claims, for example, will be crucial.

Prices were the theme for Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, when he addressed the conference of the Food Manufacturing Industry in London yesterday. The Chancellor's discussions with the TUC formed the background to what he said.

"If we neither lose our nerve nor abandon our present policies," he argued, "in the autumn there will be a genuine and continuous reduction in the annual inflation rate. One element in those policies is a pattern of negotiations which is consistent with

the economic position of this country: wage settlements which will neither themselves cause inflation at home nor undermine the confidence of our competitors and creditors abroad."

Mr Hattersley said that he believed absolutely in both the necessity and the propriety of a statutory price policy, though he did not pretend perfection could be achieved by Act of Parliament. It could only be overcome by the creation of an economy in which the sterling increases in money supply moderated, and progress towards increasing exports and expanding production was accelerated.

All those things, with the reduced inflation rate they produced, were now within grasp. "We can get down to single figures next year," Mr Hattersley said.

There were still two bad months to get through as the effects of increased raw material prices and, above all, sterling depreciation continued to work through into the shops. After that we should be on the road to the single figure inflation rate.

One element was a pattern of wage negotiations that neither caused inflation nor undermined confidence. Mr Hattersley said:

"We all agree—the Government, CBI, and TUC—that the best thing for this country is moderate wage increases matched by reductions in the inflation rate, so producing a real increase in our national standard of living."

"I have no doubt that those who will be responsible for making wage settlements will recognize what part their new agreements play in achieving success on prices. Without that success money wages, no matter how high, will produce only spurious advances."

Last night Mr Healey saw leaders of the CBI at the Treasury and broadly indicated the Government's objectives in those policies. A pattern of negotiations which is consistent with

European court orders Irish to lift fish ban

Luxembourg, July 13.—The European Court of Justice ruled tonight that Ireland's unilateral fishing restrictions were against EEC rules and ordered them lifted by Monday.

In its first important ruling on the EEC fisheries policy, the court rejected Ireland's request for a protracted adjournment of the case.

The Irish measures, imposed unilaterally last April, banned fishing vessels of more than 100ft in length and 1,100 brake horse power from within 50 miles of its coast. The European Commission asked the court to rule that the restrictions were discriminatory, as Ireland had few vessels of that size.

French and Dutch fishermen were worst affected by the ban. Tonight's ruling orders Ireland to convert the commission and seek its approval for alternative means of conserving fish stocks, provided they are compatible with EEC rules.

During the hearing, which opened here on Monday, the Commission told the court the Irish measures were unnecessary and should be suspended immediately.

The Commission argued that fishing plans submitted by other member states for their catches in Irish waters were now "reasonably satisfactory". They included catch limitations in order to conserve fish stocks.

Counsel for the Irish Government urged the court to give a further adjournment before making its decision to give the new Dublin Government, which took office last week, time to study what he described as an extremely technical and difficult matter.—Reuter.



Dr Owen: diminishing hopes.

US talks on Rhodesia for Dr Owen

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, will fly to Washington at the end of next week for talks on Rhodesia with Mr Vance, the American Secretary of State. His aim will be to consider the next steps in what both fear is a diminishing chance of achieving a settlement.

Mr Peter Jay, the new British ambassador to the United States, will arrive in Washington on July 21, to be on hand for Dr Owen's discussions on July 23.

Despite conflicting reports on progress towards agreeing a new Rhodesian constitution, the Anglo-American initiative will be vigorously pursued. Mr Jay Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, is renowned for back-tracking in his public statements, after sounding reasonably constructive in private, and to some extent the same holds true for African nationalists like Mr Joshua Nkomo, who feel obliged to take a strong stand before their own supporters.

Parliamentary report, page 7

New Cortes closes the Franco chapter

From William Chislett
Madrid, July 13

Spain's 350 elected congressmen and 248 senators, 41 of whom were appointed by King Juan Carlos, took their seats for the first time today in the first democratic Cortes (Parliament) since the Civil War.

The opening session lasted five emotional minutes when 40 years of history seemed to disappear and a new chapter was opened. Señor Rafael Alberti, the 74-year-old communist writer, and Señora Dolores Ibarruri, the 82-year-old president of the Spanish Communist Party, who was known as La Pasionaria in the Civil War, helped preside over the Congress.

They are the oldest members of the lower house and both were in exile for 38 years. Señor Alberti, wearing a blue velvet jacket and a brightly coloured tie, carried a rufic file with him and it looked for a minute as if he would read a poem.

Uptairs in the old committee room, Señor Manuel de Irujo, the Justice Minister in the former Republican Government, who returned to Madrid yesterday for the first time since Franco's victory, helped to preside over the session. He is a senator for the Basque Nationalist Party.

It was a strange experience for many to enter the Cortes for the first time in their lives. Only a few, such as La Pasionaria, had been in the building before. The last time she spoke there—when the country was on the brink of civil war in 1936—she referred to Fascist gangsters after Señor José María Gil Robles, leader of the right-wing Ceta, said: "We are present at the funeral service for democracy."

Today's session was like a new baptism.

After the short opening, the Congress adjourned for an hour and a half while preparations were made to elect a president. In the Cortes bar, Señora Ibaruri told me: "This is a rejuvenated Cortes."

Dressed as always in black, she slipped her coffee while at the end of the bar Señor Manuel Fraga Iribarne, former Interior Minister and head of the neo-Francoist Popular Alliance, rubbed shoulders with opposition leaders he had imprisoned last year.

No comment was made as he passed by Professor Ramon Tzananes, the Communist economist, and Señor Marcelino Camacho, leader of the Workers' Commissions, the Communist-dominated trade union, who were both jailed by him. Señor Fraga kept very much to himself after the Alliance's humiliating defeat in the June 15 general election, when it obtained only 16 seats. He would not be drawn on predicting the future of the Alliance and said he still hoped to build a conservative party and that one of the reasons why he formed the Alliance was because he saw the pendulum swinging after the death of General Franco.

Certainly looking at today's Cortes, the pendulum has swung. Señor Fraga said the new parliament's "capacity for work" (his capacity was legendary) has yet to be proved. This is a day of hope for me," he admitted.

Continued on page 5, col 2

C insists keeping rule rises

The National Union of Railwaysmen, biggest of the three rail unions, yesterday gave the Government a boost towards achieving a phased return to full collective bargaining.

The union, representing 180,000 workers, voted by 45 to 31 at its conference in Ayr for an orderly and gradual withdrawal from wage control. A militant call to scrap the social contract was rejected by 44 votes to 32.

The decision was a victory for the union's moderate leadership, which is supporting the 12-month rule between pay settlements. The drivers' union, The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (ASLEF), is isolated among the rail unions in seeking an immediate return to unfettered bargaining after the end of this month.

Mr Russell Tuck, acting general secretary of the NUR, emphasized yesterday that if the union's big rise the NUR would follow suit.

NUR rejects militant call to end contract

From Our Labour Reporter
Ayr

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Government defeated by 3 votes

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

The Government suffered another embarrassing defeat in the Commons last night when a Labour backbench amendment to the Criminal Law Bill, which would allow the police to support from some Conservative and Liberal MPs was carried by 39 votes to 36.

The new clause, moved by Mr George Cunningham, MP for Islington, South, and Finsbury, gives the right for anyone arrested by the police, other than terrorists, to have a person of his choosing informed of the arrest and of the place where he is being held.

The defeat came within 24 hours of the loss by the Government of the Local Authority Works (Scotland) Bill. The two defeats were reminders to ministers, almost on the eve of divisions vital to economic policy on the last stages of the Finance Bill, of the delicate state of the Government's position in Parliament.

Parliamentary report, page 7

Union decides not to ask bank to put pressure on Grunwick

By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

The executive council of the National Union of Bank Employees decided yesterday that it could not ask its members to "black" the Grunwick account as a branch of the Midland Bank in north London.

A proposal to take direct industrial action was "roundly defeated" by the executive who heard that some members would resign from the union if such action was taken.

Mr Leif Mills, the union's general secretary, said: "We could not support a move asking the banks in effect to exert political pressure on their customers. Any such move would place in jeopardy bank-customer relationships which must be maintained."

The executive reaffirmed its support for the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (Apex) and urged the company to observe the provisions of the Employment Protection Act and the decision of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) in the union's favour.

Earlier, two senior officials of Apex, Mr Christopher Ball and Mr Eddy Hayes, were warned by police that they risked prosecution under the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act of 1875 for trying to find out where the company's bus picks up workers early each morning.

The two men had been followed by the police as they followed the bus in Cricklewood Broadway.

Chief-inspector Robert Hay said: "Under section 7 of the Act it is an offence to follow someone about in connection with a trades dispute, with a view of coercing them to do anything in connection with their employment."

Mr Ball said: "If this company has to rely on that kind of anachronistic law laid down in the dark ages, it is a sad state of affairs."

In another development, today some postal workers who have refused to handle mail from Grunwick posted throughout the country last weekend in the National Association for

Executive freed

Milan, July 13.—Kidnappers today released Signor Gianpiero Crespi, aged 29, an Italian textile executive, 29 days after his abduction.

Government plan to nationalize water is deferred

The Government's plans to nationalize the water industry in England and Wales have been deferred because they would not "at this time gain sufficient parliamentary support" for the establishment of a National Water Authority, to prepare a national strategy for all water services. The work of the British Waterways Board, covering all inland water transport, would be taken over by the authority.

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Arts Council aid saves theatres

Four important provincial theatres, owned by Moss Empires, have been saved from the threat of closure, at least until March, by the intervention of the Arts Council. The council will disburse money from company theatre's long-term position. Three other provincial theatres, owned by Howard and Wyndham, are expected to be saved by a similar cash subsidy.

Mr Pym criticizes two-party system

Mr Francis Pym, the Conservative front-bench MP, considered the deteriorating two-party system in Parliament to be the main cause of Britain's poor economic performance in recent years. Pym thinks it absurd that we cannot get together on matters like how best to make the economy work more effectively," he declared.

Leader page 15

Letters to the Lib-Lab pact, from Mr George Edgley and others; blasphemy as a crime, from Mr Nicolas Walker and others; and on the neutron bomb, from Mr Reginald Maudling, MP.

Leading articles: Money and pay: Neutron bomb; Water; Features, pages 9 and 14

David Robinson says that the Shah is the main obstacle to democracy in Iran; Ronald Butt on the abortion private member's Bill; Fiction: Franchise Glynn

Books: David Hughes on *Terra Nostra* by Carlos Fuentes; Myra Blumberg on *Johnny Know You* by Edna O'Brien; H. R. Keating on the latest crime novels; Sport, pages 10 and 11

Cricket: Glamorgan have first Gillette Cup victory five years; Motor Racing: David Purley hurt in British Grand Prix practice; Racing: Shirlad withdraws from big race at Ascot; Rugby Union: Nigel Horton emigrates Arab, page 12

David Robinson sees Martine Dietrich's early German films in Berlin; Alan Coren and Michael Ratcliffe on television; Irving Wardle on Henry V, part 1 at Stratford-on-Avon; John Ferval on the Nurev Festival at the Coliseum

Obituary, page 16

Mr William J. Brittain

Business News, pages 17-23

Stock market: The FT index climbed a further 3.6 to 449.9 but volume was still thin in the face of mounting pay deal fears

Financial Editor: Building societies and a wage explosion; Scottish & Newcastle searching for a way back; Bulmer's capital scheme

Business features: Geoffrey Wilson proposes a solution to the immediate problems of inflation accounting

Cheque card limit will rise to £50

By Our Banking Correspondent

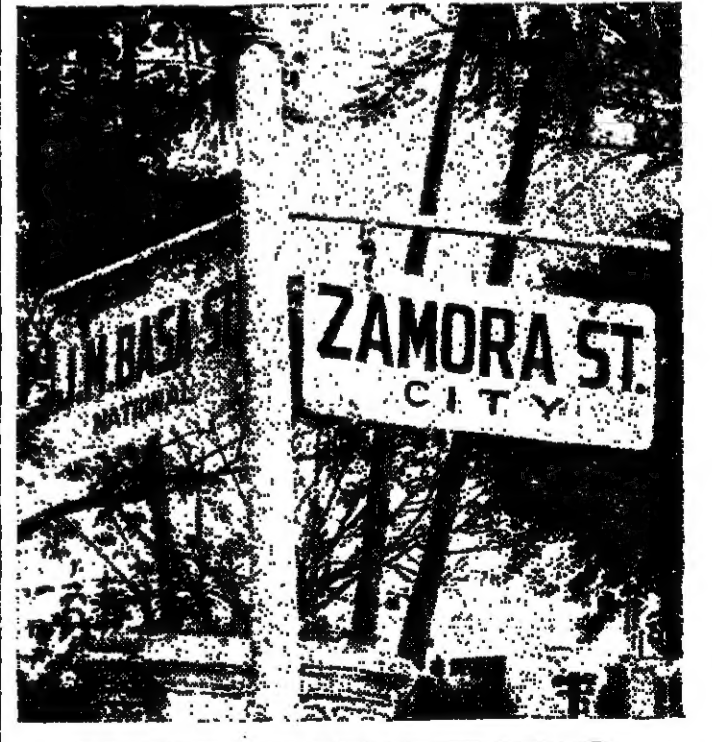
The London and Scottish clearing banks have at last bowed to consumer demands by agreeing to raise their cheque card guarantee limit from £30 to £50. The date on which the change will become effective has yet to be decided but it is expected to be August 1.

The limit has remained at £30 ever since the scheme was introduced in 1966. Even this increase does not fully make up for the increase in inflation has made on purchasing power. To recognize this would require a limit of closer to £90.

Pressure for an increase has come from consumers, who say the low limit has effectively debarrred them from paying for even modest-sized purchases by cheque and from retailers, for whom the scheme provides a legal guarantee against bad cheques.

At present the new limit extends only to the London and Scottish clearing banks and not to other United Kingdom banks who operate their own cheque card schemes nor to those like the Yorkshire Bank who operate through Barclaycard.

The banks have been reluctant to make any changes to the limit because of the amount of fraudulent use of cheque cards.



WHERE IN THE WORLD
WILL YOU FIND
STANDARD CHARTERED?

Teachers' retirement

The Government has announced a new "voluntary" early retirement for teachers aged 50 or over, in an attempt to align down the teaching force and create vacancies for the several thousand unemployed young teachers. But teachers' leaders have insisted that no one will be forced to retire if he or she does not wish to.

Page 2

£1m Sotheby sale

Sotheby's sold for £1,018,193 the most important group of Western manuscripts and miniatures the firm had ever assembled. The main items sold below expectations, but H. P. Kraus, of New York, paid high prices for the four more expensive pieces, including the most richly illustrated surviving manuscript of the *Roman de la Rose*.

page 16

Neutron bomb plea

President Carter told Congress that development of neutron warheads would help deter communist attacks and make it less likely he would ever have to order their use. In the Senate, opponents of the bomb called for full information about it before providing funds to produce it.

Page 5

Hijackers sent back

Finland yesterday handed over to the Soviet authorities the two Russians who hijacked an Aeroflot jet to Helsinki on Sunday. From the beginning, the Finns had said they were obliged to do so under their anti-hijacking treaty with Moscow and the press was told of the handover as it was about to happen.

Page 5

New orchestra

A new London orchestra, specializing in the lesser-known works of Mozart, will make its debut in October, at St John's, Smith Square.

Page 4

Oil tests 'encouraging'

Development of the Brae oilfield in the North Sea is expected to go ahead after encouraging results from test drilling, carried out by a consortium led by Pan Ocean Oil Corporation. The British National Oil Corporation will have access to 51 per cent of the oil once the field is declared commercially.

Page 17

US shares plea

President Carter has asked a Senate committee to after a requirement that Mr Bert Lance, the Administration's Budget Director, should sell by the end of the year 150,000 shares in a Georgia bank. The forced sale will mean a loss to Mr Lance of at least \$1.5m.

Page 6

Opec 'terrorist plot' foiled

Stockholm, July 13.—Police said tonight they had arrested a man suspected of belonging to a Japanese guerrilla group and believed to have entered Sweden as part of a plan to mount an operation during the meeting of Opec oil ministers here.

They said the man was suspected of being a member of the Japanese Red Army group and had been picked up in the Stockholm area.—Reuter.

Opec conference, page 17

HOME NEWS



The 21 members of the Conservative leader's consultative committee are pictured with Mrs Thatcher for the first time in the new "Shadow Cabinet" room in the House of Commons, which was made available to

the Opposition earlier this year. From left to right: Mr Nicholas Edwards (Wales), Mr Airey Neave (Northern Ireland), Mr Edward Taylor (Scotland), Lord Carrington (leader in the House of Lords), Mr William White-

law (Deputy leader and Home Office), Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Leader of the Opposition), Sir Keith Joseph (Industry), Mr Angus Maude (a deputy chairman of the party and chairman of the research department),

Mr Francis Pym (Devolution and House of Commons Affairs), Mr Patrick Jenkin (Social Services), Mr Tom King (Trade), Mr Humphrey Atkins (Chief Whip), Mr Norman St John-Stevas (Education), Sir Michael

Havers, QC (Legal adviser to the Shadow Cabinet), Mr John Nott (Energy), Mr James Prior (Employment), Lord Thorpe (Chairman of the party), Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC (Treasury and Economic Affairs),

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone (without specific duties), Mr John Davies (Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), Sir Ian Gilmour (Defence), Mr Michael Heseltine (Environment).

Warning by rail chief on investment restraint

From Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

British Rail will face a crisis in the mid-1980s if there is no change in the Government's investment allocation, Mr Peter Parker, chairman of the British Railways Board, said yesterday. He told the annual conference of the National Union of Railwaysmen that "restraint on investment and therefore delay in the renewal of worn-out assets does not produce an immediate crisis but produces a slow deterioration in many parts of the business which at the end of a period produces a system which is no longer safe, maintainable or saleable to the customers."

The board, he said, appreciated the need for restraint which had been imposed since 1975. In the five years from 1978 the board would be seeking a significant increase in the allocation for investment.

He said the White Paper on transport offered no solution to the central conundrum: "how can we fulfil our central responsibility to maintain the network broadly as it is and still work within the rigid inputs of capital planning and cash limits."

Spending limits had to be reduced during the next two or three years and then must begin to see some relief as "national recovery comes". "There is a danger of a crumbling quality in services."

Mr Parker said he would like this year to be "the year of the clean window" on British Rail. That might mean reallocating resources to new cleaning depots.

Customers wanted punctuality, information and cleanliness. Having travelled in ignorance on the railways to see how it looked and felt, he said he found that "we have got a job on our hands."

Pit bonus scheme

In spite of the rejection last week by the National Union of Mineworkers of a national incentive bonus scheme, Sir Derek East, chairman of the National Coal Board, said yesterday that the board intended to press for a new scheme.

Early retirement plan for surplus teachers

From Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

A new scheme of induced "voluntary" retirement for teachers aged 50 or over was announced by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, at the annual meeting of the Council of Local Education Authorities in Brighton yesterday.

Under the scheme, teachers aged over 50 who are made redundant or who leave their jobs "in the interest of the efficient exercise of the employer's functions" will receive immediately the superannuation benefits that have accrued to them in accordance with their years of service. In addition, the local education authority may, at its own discretion, enlarge the accrued superannuation benefits by making an allowance of "added years" so that a teacher who retired after, say, only 30 years of service, could get the full pension now given to those with 40 years or more service.

At present any teacher who

retires early, other than for reasons of sickness, cannot receive any superannuation benefit before 60. After completion of 40 years' service they are eligible for a full pension of half pay plus a lump sum which would be the equivalent of two thirds of final salary.

It is the discretionary "added years" element, which falls entirely on the local authority, that is likely to make or break the scheme. The ordinary retirement benefits will be paid out of the national teachers' superannuation fund.

Mr Terry Casey, General Secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, the second largest of the teachers' unions, said their would be "no deal" unless the maximum added years' allowance was given to teachers, so as to bring early retirement pensions up to the full rate.

He welcomed the new scheme as being "a realistic approach to slimming down the teaching force". But he felt it could only be used practi-

cally for older teachers, probably for those nearer 60 than 50, when the burden in the form of "added years" payments would be that much lighter. The total cost of five "added years" would be the equivalent of about half the teacher's annual pay spread over the full five-year period, he said.

Mr Casey insisted that "this is not firing teachers with minimum compensation." It was not a compulsory scheme, he said. Teachers could refuse to be made redundant under the proposed early retirement provisions.

It was simply providing the means to get sensible and fair agreements for teachers who wanted to retire early and whom the local authorities were willing to retire, he said. The scheme will not apply to those teachers who leave the service voluntarily without the local authority's blessing.

While Mr Casey was unwilling to say that there was a scheme to get rid of incompetent teachers, it quite clearly could and would be used for

that purpose, as well as to provide vacancies for the several thousand younger teachers who might otherwise remain unemployed.

Before the scheme can be brought into operation, the Department of Education and Science will have to prepare regulations and lay them before Parliament. The teachers' associations and the local authorities will be consulted beforehand, Mrs Williams said.

But the financing of such a scheme is clearly going to be an obstacle to its operation on any large scale by most local authorities in their present straitened circumstances.

Mr J. Springett, chief education officer for Essex, was among several local authority representatives who spoke of the severe difficulties already being experienced by local education authorities. The authorities could not stand another bad year, Mr Springett told Mrs Williams. They were greatly concerned about their ability to carry out existing tasks, let alone new ones.

Plea to Mr Callaghan by abortion reformers

By Our Political Staff

After nearly 100 hours of debate in standing committees, the Abortion (Amendment) Bill, introduced by Mr William Bagnall, Conservative MP for Bucklebury, to tighten the abortion regulations, completed its committee stage yesterday morning.

But, unless the Government provides time for the remaining stages, the Bill cannot progress to the Lords, and its supporters were pessimistic about its chances of passing.

Mr Bagnall said: "I made a number of concessions to get the Bill through committee. The Bill takes its place at the end of the list of Bills for consideration on Friday."

He cannot get any further without Government assistance. I have asked the Prime Minister to meet an all-party delegation."

Other organizations had written to the Prime Minister also pleading for government time to be allowed.

The Cabinet is expected to discuss the request this morning and Mr Foot, Leader of the House, will probably give some indication of the government view in the Commons later.

Opponents of the Bill are planning tougher opposition. Amendments tabled by Mr Milward, Labour MP for Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, could kill the Bill.

Although some ministers are said to be looking for a compromise, Mr Molyneux, Minister of State, Department of Health, has stated firmly the Government's view that there is no need for the Bill because the department has taken administrative action.

One compromise plan which has been discussed, but was eventually rejected, because of the implacable opposition of some women Labour MPs to the Bill as a whole, would enable charitable organizations offering abortion services to continue to be linked with other clinics or with other clinics.

The Bill proposes that there should be no financial link between organizations offering advice and clinics.

'Poor attendances' at Labour NEC attacked

By Our Political Reporter

Labour politicians expressed their anger last night at the party's national executive committee which is making policy in their name although few of its members attend the meetings for this purpose.

The latest case in point was a series of meetings of the party's home and international policy committees held yesterday to discuss the party's attitude towards Europe which was attended by only six of a possible total of 25 members.

There was a similar attendance at an earlier meeting this week to approve a party document on defence which has been criticized by Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence.

The European document, while recognizing the fact of British membership, is highly critical of the European Community. It states that nothing should be done to increase the powers of the European Assembly and wants clauses inserted into the legislation for direct elections.

Both documents have yet to be approved by a full meeting of the national executive committee. Some ministers and backbenchers, not all of whom are totally opposed to the documents, believe that such poor attendance at important meetings is certain to reflect on the party.

While some national executive members argue that the meetings have been arranged at short notice and that many of them have previous engagements, the view is being expressed inside the Parliamentary Labour Party that such defence is far from adequate.

The two documents will be discussed at a meeting of the national executive at the end of the month and that will be seen as a test.

Those who attended yesterday's meeting on the European document, part of which was reported in *The Times* on July 9, were: Miss Joan Lester, this year's party chairman, Mr Ian Mikardo, Mr Eric Heffer, Mrs Barbara Castle, Mr Crawford, of the bootmakers' union, and Mr McEneaney, of the National Union of Seamen.

'Foreign' diet of South is spurned in the North

By Peter Godfrey

A northerner is likely to be identifiable not only by accent and the color of his football scarf, but by an enduring taste for laggos, tripe or black pudding. In contrast, the Londoner shows a consuming interest in legumes, bean-stroganoff and other incomprehensible dishes spurned by those north of Watford.

Britain's culinary divide is described in a paper before the Nutrition Society by Dr David Buss of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

He declares that southerners favour salads and unusual vegetables such as corn-on-the-cob.

The northerner likes "root vegetables, potato dishes and thick soups with his meat pies and sausages. He devours puddings and custard while the

southerner nibbles at light desserts and fresh fruit.

Dr Buss sees the garden peas as symptomatic of regional differences. In both London and the North the average weekly consumption of peas is 5oz a head, but in the North they are almost entirely canned and processed, while in London they are most popular in frozen form.

Chinese food, curries, hamburgers and the ubiquitous chip are becoming staples of British cuisine. Food bought at foreign restaurants and "take-aways" accounts for £250m of the country's £1,200m annual expenditure in catering establishments.

"There is evidence for a regression towards the mean as people migrate between regions and as advertising and other pressures become more uniform", Dr Buss says.

Inquiry team pays visit to Grunwick

By Robert Parker

Lord Justice Scarman, who is heading the court of inquiry into the Grunwick dispute, yesterday visited the company's two factories in north London to examine working conditions. After two hours at Chapter Road and Cobbold Road, he said his visit "had been extremely useful."

The two other members of the inquiry, Mr Par Lowry, director of personnel at British Leyland, and Mr Terry Parry, head of the Fire Brigades Union, also visited the company, as did the legal advisers of Grunwick and the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (APEX), the union involved in the industrial dispute.

Lord Justice Scarman said: "We have used our eyes and ears to look at the factories. We have learnt a lot which will help us."

He emphasized that his team had not asked questions in order to gather information that could be regarded as evidence for the inquiry.

Advances in extracting minerals from sea-water

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A new process to extract magnesium compounds from sea water was described yesterday at a special conference, which is examining developments to obtain important raw materials for industry and to increase food production from the oceans. The conference is also exploring the associated risks of radioactive waste disposal, oil pollution and other sources of damage.

The meeting, a Southampton University, organized by the Society of Chemical Industry, discussed the potentially recoverable reserves of minerals such as uranium, copper, nickel and iron from marine deposits.

The extraction processes depend to a great extent on whether the mineral is in the sediment or dissolved in the water.

The main demand for magnesium compounds is for heat resistant materials used to line furnaces in the production of steel, copper and other non-ferrous metals, cement and glass. Dr W. C. Gilpin and Mr N. Heasman, Steeley Chemicals

SNP rifts shown by resignation

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

Friction between the Scottish National Party organization in Edinburgh and some of the party's MPs has come to a head with the resignation of Mr Gordon Wilson, as deputy leader of the parliamentary group.

After a report in *The Times* in May about a private conversation between the Queen and the Scottish National Party, Mr Wilson is understood to have advised Mr William Rofe, the party chairman, who issued a statement critical of whoever leaked the story.

Later the deputy leader was accused of disloyalty by some of his fellow MPs and claims that led to his resignation, which was reported on Tuesday.

The hope within the SNP is that the national executive, which meets next month, will pass a motion of confidence in Mr Wilson, who is MP for Dundee, East, and that the breach will be healed.

Mr Powell denies threat of Ulster Unionists' split

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Enoch Powell, Ulster Unionist member for South, denied yesterday that there was any question of a forthcoming "confrontation" between Mr Harry West, leader of the party in Northern Ireland, and Mr James Moynihan, Ulster Unionist member for Antrim, South, leader of the six MPs in the Commons, over the group's decision not to vote against the Government for six months in return for progress on establishing an administrative assembly in Ulster.

Mr Powell, speaking on behalf of the parliamentary group, was deputizing for Mr Moynihan at the party's weekly Commons press conference. He referred to a report in *The Times* on Monday quoting Mr West as saying that the party remained firm in rejecting any form of administrative assembly and would continue to call for devolved regional government in the style of the old Stormont parliament.

Referring to a press cutting, Mr Powell said Mr West was not seeking clarification from Mr Moynihan of what the six

Two buses and car burnt

Two buses and a car were burnt last night in the Roman Catholic Springfield Road area of west Belfast. There were reports that a barricade had been built to stop soldiers entering streets.

Mr Powell said progress was blocked by the Government's concept of "power-sharing". An announcement is expected from Mr Foot, Leader of the House, today.

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Bombings suspect replies to charges in Gaelic

Ciaran McMorrough dismissed his lawyers and insisted on speaking Irish at the start of his trial in the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday. After a brief adjournment an interpreter was called.

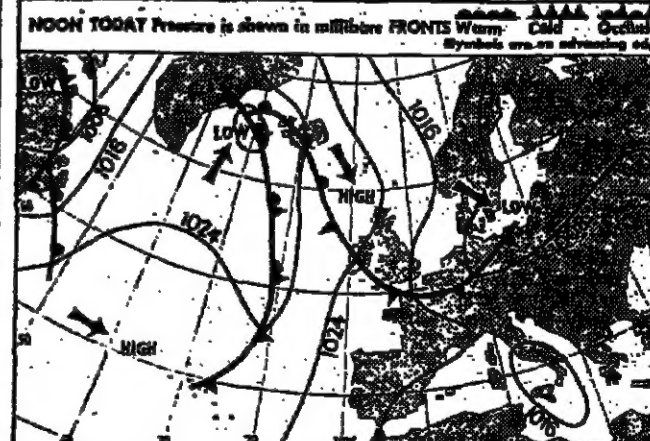
Mr McMorrough, aged 26, once named as a suspect for up to 60 bombings, including the M62 coach explosion, faced six charges alleging possession of explosives. When the first one was read to him he replied in Gaelic.

He mentioned a 17-year-old United Nations resolution on "decolonization" in an effort to explain his attitude over the case but refused to plead. Mr Justice William McMahon, the

president, said a not guilty plea would be entered, but then adjourned the trial to enable Mr McMorrough to consult his lawyers.

Mr McMorrough also faced a charge of shooting at an Irish Army soldier with intent to murder him and other counts involving the possession of explosives, arms and ammunition under suspicious circumstances.

He was accused, also of having a weapon with intent to prevent arrest, but a further charge of membership of the Provisional IRA was withdrawn by the prosecution. No guilty pleas were entered on all the remaining counts.



Today
Sun rises: 5.0 am
Moon rises: 9.15 pm
Moon sets: 7.22 pm
New moon: July 16.
Lighting up: 9.43 am to 4.31 am.
High water: London Bridge, 1.29 pm (21.6m).
Low water: London Bridge, 6.41 am (11.3m) (37.1ft); 6.36 pm (11.7m) (38.5ft).
Dover, 11.2 am, 5.9 pm (11.2m) (37.2m).
Hull, 5.41 am, 6.4m (21.1ft).
Liverpool, 6.6 pm, 6.4m (21.1ft).
Belfast, 11.0 am, 11.21 pm, 5.5m (27.7ft).

Pressure will remain high over NW Britain with a N airstream across all parts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:
London, SE England: Rain in places at first, becoming brighter with isolated showers; wind N, moderate to fresh; max temp 18-20°C (64-68°F).
East Angles, E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: High periods, scattered light showers; wind N, moderate or fresh; max temp 18°C (64°F), 15°C (59°F) on coast.

Central S, SW England, S Wales: Drizzle in places at first, clearing to moderate; wind N to NE, moderate; max temp 18-21°C (64-70°F).
Wales: Drizzle in places at first, clearing to moderate; wind N to NE, moderate; max temp 18-21°C (64-70°F).

Midlands, NW, Central N England, Lakes District, N Wales, SE of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Mainly dry with occasional showers; wind N or NE, moderate; max temp 18-21°C (64-70°F).
Central Highlands, Moray, Fife, NE Scotland, Orkney: Sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind N, moderate or fresh; max temp 14-16°C (57-61°F).
Argyll, NW Scotland: Mainly dry, sunny; wind N, moderate or moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F).

Shetland: Sunny intervals, occasional showers; wind N, fresh to strong; max temp 13°C (55°F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mostly dry with sunny periods, possibly some rain later in the NW, becoming a little warmer.
Sea: Passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind N or NE, moderate or fresh; sea moderate. English Channel (E): Wind NE, light or moderate occasionally; sea slight or moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NE, light or moderate; sea slight.

Fallen count: The pollen count issued in London yesterday by the Asthma Research Council was 37, low.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.
Aberdeen: 12-18, c. Glasgow: 12-18, c. London: 12-18, c. Manchester: 12-18, c. Newcastle: 12-18, c. Nottingham: 12-18, c. Oxford: 12-18, c. Plymouth: 12-18, c. Reading: 12-18, c. Southampton: 12-18, c. Swansea: 12-18, c. Cardiff: 12-18, c. Exeter: 12-18, c. Bristol: 12-18, c. Gloucester: 12-18, c. Hereford: 12-18, c. Worcester: 12-18, c. York: 12-18, c. Lincoln: 12-18, c. Leicester: 12-18, c. Derby: 12-18, c. Nottingham: 12-18, c. Sheffield: 12-18, c. Birmingham: 12-18, c. Coventry: 12-18, c. Warwick: 12-18, c. Oxford: 12-18, c. London: 12-18, c. Reading: 12-18, c. Southampton: 12-18, c. Swansea: 12-18, c. Cardiff: 12-18, c. Exeter: 12-18, c. Bristol: 12-18, c. Gloucester: 12-18, c. Hereford: 12-18, c. Worcester: 12-18, c. York: 12-18, c. Lincoln: 12-18, c. Leicester: 12-18, c. Derby: 12-18, c. Nottingham: 12-18, c. Sheffield: 12-18, c. Birmingham: 12-18, c. Coventry: 12-18, c. Warwick: 12-18, c. Oxford: 12-18, c. London: 12-18, c. Reading: 12-18, c. Southampton: 12-18, c. 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HOME NEWS

Patients are happier with hospital life but want more privacy

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Patients are more satisfied with a stay in hospital than they were a few years ago, according to the most recent survey published today by King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

The report, based on the views of 10,000 patients from 23 hospitals up to 1970 and from 40 hospitals between 1971 and 1974, found far less dissatisfaction expressed by patients in the later period. Twenty-three aspects of hospital life were said to be improved, nine were equal and none was worse.

Twenty-eight questions were put to patients about the ward and its equipment, sanitary accommodation, meals, activities, care and overall contentment. The responses showed high degree of general contentment and the wards were on the whole liked and said to be bright and cheerful whatever their plan.

The chief criticism was that wards were too hot, too stuffy and too noisy at night. Some patients disliked the discomfort of protective undersheets and plastic mattress covers.

More criticism was directed towards the sanitary arrangements than anything else. Patients were concerned with lack of privacy and the discomfort of protective undersheets and plastic mattress covers. But a greater improvement was shown since 1971 in that aspect of hospital life than in any other.

Boredom was frequently mentioned as a burden. Patients suggested improved visiting hours, a better radio service and the provision of more diversional activities to combat it. Being woken at an early hour gave rise to many complaints, but there was a

warm appreciation for the care given by staff, especially nurses.

When asked what they liked best and least about a stay in hospital, 93 per cent liked best human or organizational factors - 71 per cent staff, 11 per cent atmosphere and relaxation, 9 per cent fellow patients and 2 per cent visiting arrangements. Only 7 per cent gave physical matters, such as food, or the ward. Answers on what was least liked were almost equally divided between physical matters (49 per cent) and human and organizational factors (46 per cent). Five per cent said that it was the pain or discomfort.

The report concludes that the happiness of patients seems to depend on the skill, ability and kindness of other people. Much of what patients disliked could be remedied without spending money.

A similar survey of patients in psychiatric hospitals, published simultaneously, also found less dissatisfaction with hospital life. More than half the patients said that in general they enjoyed their stay in hospital. Long-stay patients were less critical than those on a short stay. Dormitories and day rooms were considered comfortable but there were frequent complaints about noise, lack of privacy and inadequate lockers.

Patients were most pleased with social activities, the staff, treatment and the feeling of security. But there was increasing dissatisfaction with the fact that patients did not see doctors enough. Two thousand patients from nine hospitals answered questions.

Patients and their Hospitals and Psychiatric Hospitals viewed by Patients. (The King's Fund, 126 Albert Street, London, NW1 7NF, £3.75).

Commerce is claiming more new graduates

From a Staff Reporter, Manchester

A significant change in the first destinations of graduates was reported in Manchester yesterday by the Central Services Unit for University Careers and Appointments.

The unit says in its statistical report for 1976 that more new graduates are going into industry and commerce and far fewer into public service.

An increasing number of graduates from universities and polytechnics are also obtaining posts in law and accountancy. Law has overtaken mathematics as the most popular subject at university. On the other hand the proportion of those going into teacher training and education has dropped considerably.

Although the general employment situation was worse in 1976 than in 1975 the proportion of graduates still looking for a permanent job at the end of the year was practically the same - a surprisingly good situation and much better than most careers officers had feared.

The demand from manufacturing industries for graduates was buoyant throughout the year. University graduates 1976 and Polytechnic First Degree and HND students 1976. Published by the Central Services Unit for Careers and Appointments, 126 Albert Street, London, NW1 7NF, £3.75.

Police on bicycles

Yeovil, Somerset, reintroduced police cycle patrols yesterday to establish a closer link with the community. Among the first on patrol was Police Constable Michael Slade, who was a junior cycling champion of Devon and Cornwall six years ago.

Closure of provincial theatres is averted

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

A successful outcome to talks between the Arts Council and Moss Empires means that four large provincial theatres will remain open at least until next March. Their long-term future is the subject of further discussion.

A similar arrangement is expected to be reached with Howard and Wyndham Ltd, which owns three theatres outside London.

Equity, the actors' union, said that although it welcomed the announcement of a reprieve for the four theatres owned by Moss Empires, its campaign would continue with demonstrations today outside the theatres whose closure has been feared.

The Moss Empires theatres are the Hippodromes at Birmingham and Bristol, the Empire, Liverpool, and the Palace, Manchester. Howard and Wyndham are responsible

for the Royal Court, Liverpool, the Opera House, Manchester, and the New Oxford.

The Arts Council said yesterday: "We are assisting Moss Empires to keep the theatres open until the end of the present financial year. We have a sum of money allocated to assist in keeping provincial theatres open in this financial year and we are now engaged in discussions with the parties concerned, the theatre owners and local authorities, to find a long-term solution."

Moss Empires were "a step ahead" of Howard and Wyndham, the Arts Council said. "We are hoping, and so are they, that we shall be able to secure money for them as well."

The amount of financial assistance was not disclosed. In 1975-76, the Arts Council made available for touring grants and guarantees totalling £1,164,000.

Letters, page 15

Ministers asked to help evicted couple with baby

By Pat Healey
Social Services Correspondent

Two government ministers are being asked to intervene over the new policy towards the homeless adopted by Berkshire County Council, which limits help to homeless families to 28 days.

Miss Joan Lester, Labour MP for Eton and Slough, yesterday demanded a meeting with Mr. Freeman, Minister for Housing and Construction, after a family with a baby aged 13 weeks was denied further help.

Miss Lester has already asked Mr. Emmott, Secretary of State for Social Services, to intervene. In addition, Mr. Victor Gadowick, deputy leader of the Labour group on Slough District Council, is planning to report his council to the local govern-

ment commissioner for administration.

The row was brought to a head yesterday by the plight of Mr and Mrs A. Lucas, who became homeless three months ago after their baby was born.

They were living with Mrs Lucas's parents, who evicted them. Berkshire social services department placed the family in bed and breakfast accommodation, but applied the 28-day rule and stopped paying the cost last week. Slough housing authority has refused to rehouse them on the grounds that their homelessness was contrived.

The family's bed and breakfast costs are being paid by Shelter, who pointed out that Berkshire and Slough are acting contrary to the spirit of the homelessness circular, 1974.

Britain to try to widen Nato reservists' membership

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

Nato reserve officers who belong to an organization that is a year older than Nato itself will meet in Britain for the first time at their thirtieth annual congress next week.

Britain's most celebrated reserve officer, the Prince of Wales, will open the conference at the Duke of York's Headquarters, London, on Monday.

The Confédération Interalliée des Officiers de Réserve (CIOR) was formed in 1948 by reserve officers from Western countries. But Britain did not join until 1963, through the Reserve Forces Association, which includes serving and retired members of all the service reserves.

The official British attitude towards the CIOR has always been somewhat circumspect because of its determination to allow only officers to join. Britain would prefer to see an all-ranks organization, and that is the message the host country will try to put across next week.

The American delegation will be the largest, with about 300 officers. But West Germany is sending about a hundred and France 90, although French forces are not committed to the Western alliance.

Nato or tries not officially represented, are Portugal, Turkey and Iceland, which do not belong to the CIOR, and Luxembourg, which is too small to send a delegation of its own.

Motor cyclist knocked down minister on lawn

Stephen Freestone, a baker's roundsman, had an outrageous burst of temper the day he was involved in a dispute over riding his motor cycle across the lawn of his next-door neighbour, a government minister, it was stated at Greenwich Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

Mr Freestone, aged 21, was given a two-month suspended prison sentence and fined £35 after admitting assaulting Mr Moyle, Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Security. He was also fined a further £20 for damaging Mr Moyle's glasses and shirt, and ordered to pay compensation and £20 costs.

Mr Arthur Protheroe, for the defence, said that Mr Freestone was motor cycle mad and his machine, which he had had only two weeks, was his obsession. He was in the habit of riding it across Mr Moyle's lawn in Montpellier Row, Blackheath, to avoid steep steps leading to his flat.

A note was pinned to his machine warning him not to take the short cut. He had an argument with the neighbour who put it there and as he rode across the lawn he was faced by another neighbour, Mr Moyle, standing in the gap. Mr Protheroe added: "He denies he deliberately rode at him to injure him."

The minister was knocked down and kicked. His glasses were broken, his shirt torn and his left leg and elbow injured.

Mr Protheroe said Mr Freestone saw his choice possession, his motor cycle, on the ground and had an outrageous burst of temper for which he is extremely sorry.

Emergency after fault at refinery

British Petroleum's oil refinery at Grangemouth, Fife, Forth, went on emergency alert yesterday after a fault in a power station at the plant. No one was hurt.

Black smoke carrying sulphur particles hung over the town and fire engines from Falkirk, Bo'ness and Stirling stood by. The cause of the fault is to be investigated.

Army Benevolent Fund

The Army Benevolent Fund spent more than £1m in relief work during the year ended March 31. General Sir John Mogg, the chairman, said yesterday. Similar relief work by corps and regimental associations brought the total to more than £1,680,000.

Economies may force women to alter pill brand

Women on the contraceptive pill who move from one part of London to another are likely to have to change their pills from next year, the Family Planning Association said yesterday.

Area health authorities are planning to reduce the types of contraceptive pill family planning clinics can supply in an effort to save money.

Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow Area Health Authority is planning to cut out seven of the most popular brands from January next year.

Other authorities are also planning their own limited lists, which are usually different from each other.

Mrs Joy Morgan, the FPA's regional officer, said: "Great care is taken in clinics to provide the right pill for patients, but in future they will have to change from one pill to another to suit administrative convenience."

MPs set up an all-party group to lend bicycles

Mr John Horam, Under-Secretary for Transport, yesterday opened a pool of 17 bicycles that are to be available to MPs who pay £5 a year to join the all-party Friends of Cycling Group.

The bicycles, which have been given by manufacturers in Britain and EEC countries, will be kept in New Palace Yard.

Sir George Young, Conservative MP for Ealing, Acton, and chairman of the group, said: "Many MPs live or work close to Westminster, and the bicycle is the best way of getting to and from the Commons."

Mr Anthony Steen, Conservative MP for Liverpool, Wavertree, who cycles 10 miles a day, said: "We want to set a trend. Cycling is quick, cheap and healthy. Pedestrians are far safer with cichiss about."

Princess opens bridge

Princess Alexandra yesterday opened a new £12m bridge across the Itchen river at Southampton. It replaces the old floating bridges.

Orwell prize winner

Mr John Berger, the writer and art critic, has won the 1977 George Orwell Memorial Prize for his article, "Drawn to that Moment," first published in New Society. The £750 award was begun two years ago by Penguin Books.

Trust Houses Forte give opportunities to school leavers

THF - probably the world's largest hotel, catering and leisure group - is making its contribution to Britain's school leaver problem.

- 1 2,500 young people will join Trust Houses Forte this year alone
- 2 1,000 direct from school
- 3 150 from catering colleges and universities
- 4 350 industrial release students and 1,000 others in seasonal jobs

All these young people will be trained by our 150 training specialists, helped by our ever expanding team of "on the job" trainers now 3,000 strong. Many will attend a wide range of training courses from craft and apprenticeship schemes to sophisticated postgraduate programmes.

This represents real career opportunities for young people.

This is how we are making our contribution to Britain's economy

Ring 01-567 3444 or 061-969 6111 for reservations at any of our 800 hotels worldwide



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HOME NEWS

Government has to drop water nationalization plans

By John Young
Planning Reporter

A reprieve for private water companies and a death sentence for the British Waterways Board are among the main proposals of the White Paper on the water industry in England and Wales, published yesterday.

Most of its recommendations reaffirm those outlined in the Government's consultative document issued in March last year. A notable exception concerns the future of the 28 remaining private companies, which supply about one fifth of the nation's need for water. The consultative document suggested that they should be integrated with the regional authorities.

Previously, but with unusual frankness for an official publication, the Government conceded that it is no longer possible, in other words, as predicted by Mr Michael Foot, Conservative MP for Newbury, who has been the companies' main advocate in the Commons, the Liberals will not support any form of nationalization.

The White Paper repeats the Government's contention that the present arrangements are wrong in principle and anomalous in practice. "It remains their firm intention that the companies should, like the rest of the water industry, be brought into public ownership and integrated with the water authorities."

Mr Kirkland says he is sure that London can support another orchestra. "We felt that there was an opportunity in that the musical life of the city is lacking in so far as the lesser known works of Mozart have not been recorded. We are set up as a charitable trust and we hope to subsidize this by getting support from businesses."

He said the Arts Council had been unable to provide help this year, but money had been received from individuals. The orchestra's council is also working to persuade business contacts to become sponsors.

"Our idea is that sponsorship of the arts is becoming more fashionable. Sponsorship all around is beginning to take off a little."

"It can be argued that there are enough orchestras around already, dividing the Arts Council cake into smaller slices. Our idea was to try to get our own cake, and if we are successful it will grow. We are attracting the finest players we can, players we feel will work well together in a good atmosphere."

Further series are planned at St John's next year. Other concerts will be held in the Queen Elizabeth Hall and in the Festival Hall.

"We have other ideas and we have a lot of interest and support," Mr Kirkland said.

Each concert will feature works by Mozart and by contemporary composers. The orchestra, Mr Kirkland points out, has no connection with the London Mozart Players.

Need for more tourist amenities stressed

By Patricia Tisdall

Sir Mark Hogg, chairman of the English Tourist Board, said yesterday that the potential need for more tourist accommodation, transport facilities and other tourist amenities had to be tackled as a matter of some urgency.

Talks are in progress between the tourist board, the Government and other official agencies concerning the potential difficulties in providing the expected continuing increase in overseas visitors to London.

Introducing the board's annual report, Sir Mark said that its marketing policy is to encourage as many tourists as possible to take their holidays out of London and out of season. But to achieve that alternative arrival and departure points to London such as

"However, they appreciate from such a proposal as this time will not gain sufficient parliamentary support. The Government have accordingly decided that the integration of the companies can be deferred for the moment."

Nonetheless, the White Paper makes it clear that water should ultimately be a nationalized industry, analogous to other public utilities, with devolved power to manage its own detailed planning of resources.

It therefore calls for the establishment of a new National Water Authority, which would incorporate the existing National Water Council and would be responsible for preparing a national strategy for all water services. Such a strategy would constitute "the essential framework for the regional policies, plans, investment programmes and operations of the industry."

Regional authorities, while retaining their executive responsibilities, would be guided in their planning by the national strategy which would cover such matters as financial resource allocation between competing claims; methods of financial appraisal; levels of capital investment; the balance between regional interdependence and self-sufficiency; pollution control and recreation; and the management and principles of pricing.

That means in effect that, subject to public consultation and periodic reviews, the national authority would be charged with long-term responsibility for water supply (the White Paper stipulates some twenty years), while the regional authorities would retain the task of day-to-day management. The recommendations were welcomed last night by Lord Nugent of Guildford, chairman of the National Water Council, who said the council was ready to start when asked.

A much more contentious proposal is that the British Waterways Board be merged with the new authority, which would take over responsibility for inland navigation. The White Paper acknowledges the suggestion for such a merger in the consultative document met with a widely divergent response.

Particular concern was expressed about future arrangements for financing the waterways and responsibility for freight activities, it states. It suggests, therefore, that for the time being the authority would manage the waterways as a separate undertaking, just as the board does at present.

The White Paper refers frequently to future devolution and the question of transferring powers to Scottish and Welsh assemblies. In the case of Wales, which is directly affected since its water system is closely

linked with that of England, it concludes that the Welsh National Water Development Authority and the Severn-Trent Water Authority should be answerable within Wales to the Welsh assembly, but that nothing should change the central principle that river basins should be managed as complete units.

Welsh nationalist reaction last night was sharply critical. Mr Gwynfor Evans, MP for Carmarthen and president of Plaid Cymru, said the recommendations meant that the great water resources of Wales would be exploited in the interests of industry in the wealthy South-east of England, the Midlands and Merseyside.

"The White Paper is designed to put an English authority even greater control than it has today over Welsh water, and deny the people of Wales any benefit from a resource for which the demand is increasing rapidly," he said.

The Association of County Councils said it was disappointed that no basic changes were proposed in the structure and role of regional authorities. In its views on the consultative document, it had emphasized that the water service should be brought under direct democratic control.

The Association of District Councils criticized the conclusion that the water authorities should retain full statutory

responsibility for sewerage. The association said it would fight "tooth and nail" to gain control of sewerage responsibilities and described the White Paper's recommendation as "one more step towards a democratic local government towards control by large bureaucratic bodies."

The Confederation of British Industry supported the plan for a national water authority but was concerned that membership would not adequately reflect the fact that industry was the major user of water, "as was well illustrated during last year's drought."

The proposal to increase local authority membership would actually decrease industry's actual membership, and the CBI would be asking to meet the Government on the question.

The inland waterways association welcomed the creation of a national navigation authority, but the British Waterways Board expressed regret that the Government had not accepted the method of achieving it recommended by the board. Moreover, without firm assurances on the future role of the board's freight services division, private investment would be placed in jeopardy, Sir Frank Price, its chairman, added.

The *Water Industry in England and Wales* by the new authority, 60p. Stationery Office, 60p. Leading article, page 15

New London orchestra to specialize in Mozart

By Our Arts Reporter

A new orchestra, specializing in the lesser-known works of Mozart, has been established in London. It will begin its first six concerts in October.

The New Mozart Orchestra is the idea of Mr Clive Fairbairn, who is the principal conductor, and Mr Richard Kirkland, a violinist. The members will be freelance players from existing orchestras. There will be a total playing strength of 28 for the first concert at St John's, Smith Square.

Mr Kirkland says he is sure that London can support another orchestra. "We felt that there was an opportunity in that the musical life of the city is lacking in so far as the lesser known works of Mozart have not been recorded. We are set up as a charitable trust and we hope to subsidize this by getting support from businesses."

He said the Arts Council had been unable to provide help this year, but money had been received from individuals. The orchestra's council is also working to persuade business contacts to become sponsors.

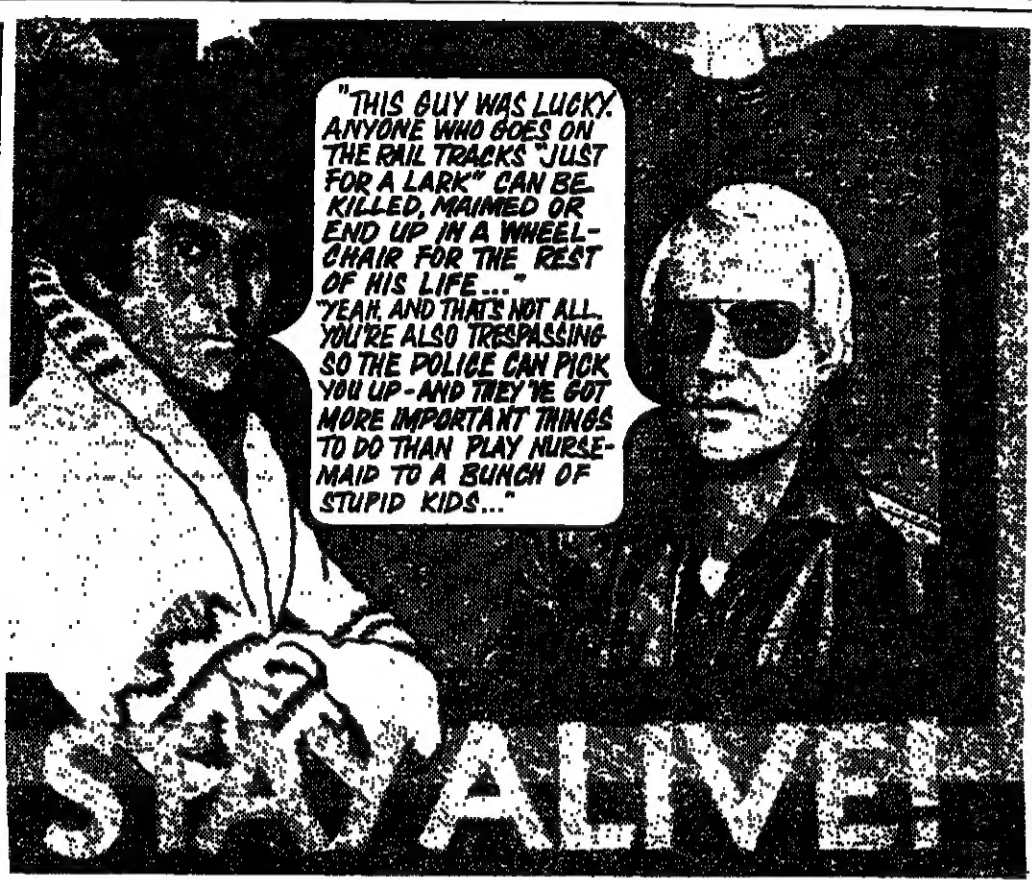
"Our idea is that sponsorship of the arts is becoming more fashionable. Sponsorship all around is beginning to take off a little."

"It can be argued that there are enough orchestras around already, dividing the Arts Council cake into smaller slices. Our idea was to try to get our own cake, and if we are successful it will grow. We are attracting the finest players we can, players we feel will work well together in a good atmosphere."

Further series are planned at St John's next year. Other concerts will be held in the Queen Elizabeth Hall and in the Festival Hall.

"We have other ideas and we have a lot of interest and support," Mr Kirkland said.

Each concert will feature works by Mozart and by contemporary composers. The orchestra, Mr Kirkland points out, has no connection with the London Mozart Players.



Cartoon moral: British Rail have recruited Starsky and Hutch, the American police detectives of television fame, to warn children against the dangers of trespassing on railway property and playing games on the tracks. The photograph shows the last frame in a strip cartoon wall chart to be sent to schools.

A hundred psychologists debate role of the sexes

From Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff

More than a hundred psychologists and sociologists gathered in Cardiff yesterday to consider the differences between men and women.

They began a three-day conference on the historical and social influences that tend to make men do many things like driving lorries, drinking pints of bitter, and playing darts, while women tend to do womanly things like typing men's letters, drinking coffee mornings.

That, of course, is a grotesque generalization, and that is what the Cardiff conference, the

International Conference on Sex Role Stereotyping, is about.

The psychologists will discuss the difficulties that people encounter when their ambitions and inclinations run counter to upbringing and tradition. They will discuss the traditional concept of man the hunter, and woman the domestic, and the effect that these ideas have.

Much of the conference will be conducted in psycho-jargon rather than plain English. Yesterday the conference discussed and will go on to talk about, roused psychobabble in men like "androgyne", getting there is half the fun. The delegates will also talk about the destructive

typical of sex role expectations

Girl killed by fumes at factory

From Our Correspondent
York

One of three teenagers from the same family died yesterday when a cloud of ammonia engulfed them and 40 workmates in a food-processing factory at Thorsgaby, near York.

The fumes were released when a pipe fractured pouring out up to three tons of the liquid and killing Margaret Harvey, aged 19.

Her sister, Carol, aged 18, and her brother Peter, aged 16, who were working with her, managed to get out.

The factory manager, Mr Colin Bell, praised staff for the way they helped each other in the accident, which happened minutes after the 6 am shift went on duty.

He said: "The efforts of workers prevented other deaths. People went back to ensure that no one had been forgotten."

It proved the value of our fire drill exercises which teach people not to panic in such situations."

Eighteen workers were taken to York District Hospital, all of them needing oxygen during the 15-minute journey from the Thorsgaby Farm Produce plant. Carol and Peter Harvey, of Morley Street, Old Goole, Humberside, were two of the nine detained last night. The girl was said to be in a serious condition but her brother's condition was satisfactory.

Later, as an investigation began into the accident, an inquest opened in York on Margaret Harvey and was adjourned for two months.

Prospects for potatoes best for two years

By Hugh Clayton

Prospects for potatoes looked much better than in the past two years, Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday. "You can never be absolutely sure until they are out of the ground and in store," he said at a lunch of the Home-Grown Cereals Authority in London.

"But if we have reasonable weather from now on, there should be an ample supply at prices far below the levels of the past two years. And the good news does not stop with potatoes. The other field vegetables, cabbage and cauliflower, in particular, are looking well."

Ministers are making as much as possible of the cheapness of farm produce compared with a year ago as the Government tries to avert a surge in the inflation. Increases caused by the drought on fruit and vegetables last summer helped to boost inflation.

Mr Silkin said that if the weather stayed good, national output of cereals would be higher than last year. "That should mean that market prices for grain will not move up, even though the United Kingdom will move to the full level of Common Market support prices."

The Safford Britain Campaign said yesterday that sugar, butter, cheese and beef would be cheaper if the United Kingdom was not bound by EEC farm policy. It said sugar cost more than 20p a kilogram in Britain against 12p outside the EEC. Butter in Britain cost more than double the world price.

Minimum shop prices for home-grown produce mid-July 1976 and now.

Strawberries (lb) 60p (30p); raspberries (4oz) 25p (20p); carrots (lb) 15p (14p); cabbage (lb) 8p (8p); cos lettuce (each) 25p (18p); spring onions (bunch) 12p (10p). (Sources: National Institute for Research in Potato Trades; Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau.)

The Prince of Wales had a flying lesson yesterday in an RAF vertical take-off and landing Harrier jet at RAF Wittering, Cambridgeshire. It was the first time he had flown in the aircraft.

AUEW accused of wrongful expulsion

A High Court decision will be given today on a complaint by two clerks employed by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers at its South London headquarters that they had been wrongly expelled from the union.

Mr Justice Brightman heard yesterday of the "topsy-turvy" situation in the union. He was told by Mr Alexander Irvine, for Mr Keith Walsh and Mr Charles Johnson, that the AUEW had two main aims, to protect the union's interests and to protect the interests of its members.

Mr Irvine said the union's clerical staff had been members of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (APCCS). In 1974 APCCS was involved in an industrial dispute with the union's executive.

The first Mr Walsh and Mr Johnson knew of the matter, however, was in January 1976, when they were called to the office of Mr John Boyd, AUEW general secretary, to be

told they were being expelled from membership of the AUEW. Mr Walsh and Mr Johnson objected. Mr Irvine said they took the view that they should not be removed from one union to another on the whim of the unions without being consulted.

"They refused to accept the expulsion, which they contended was unlawful," Mr Irvine said. He added that recently an agreement had been entered into between the two unions which effectively gave APCCS a closed shop at the AUEW headquarters.

Mr Irvine said that the union had decided to compromise with APCCS for fear of losing from its membership all of its clerical staff. He added that employees who worked closely with the union's executive.

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Lead pollution from exhaust fumes increased after a new stretch of urban motorway was opened, according to a report out yesterday from Bristol's environmental health department.

The report emphasizes that the rise in lead levels in soil, house dust and the air is by no means substantial and gives no undue cause for concern at present.

The department's study of the area bordering the mile-long second phase of the M32 into Bristol is the first to monitor levels before and after an urban motorway's opening.

Blood lead levels in the study area were typical of those observed in other studies throughout Britain and were within normal ranges.

Residents were troubled much more than before by traffic noise between 10 pm and 6 am.

County defends regional coverage by the BBC

From John Chatteris
Manchester

More criticisms of the Annan Committee report on broadcast news from the North of England yesterday.

Cheshire County Council disclosed that in its statement on the report to Mr Robert Secretary, it has expressed strong opposition to the closure of BBC regional television stations.

It says that its experience of BBC Television in the North-west does not accord with the Annan view of the BBC's regional operations as "bizarre and rustic," with budgets and facilities inadequate to compete with independent television.

The county council's statement says that the BBC has consistently maintained a very high standard of regional coverage, particularly on local Government affairs.

The recently founded Campaign for the North organiza-

tion, which stands for more local control of regional affairs, says that the Annan report is "lopsided and inadequate."

It remarks in a booklet on the subject that committees of inquiry are almost invariably formed of members of the "London-based elite."

It says that although the Annan report mentions complaints about the BBC's metropolitan bias in news and the way employment in broadcasting favours those who live in the South-east, "it passes quickly on without discussing them."

The Campaign for the North booklet adds: "The report largely ignores the fact that there are regions of England (perhaps especially the North) which are as different in many ways from London and the South-east as are Scotland and Wales and which have cultural identities and needs of their own."

System of giving reason for parole refusal 'feasible'

By Our Home Affairs
Correspondent

It would be feasible to set up a system to give prisoners reasons for the refusal of parole. This is suggested by the results of an experiment within the Parole Board, Lord Harris, Minister of State at the Home Office, said yesterday in a parliamentary written answer.

The necessary resources would have to be provided and opinions differ as to whether it would be desirable to give reasons. The experiment is to be extended to a cross-section of five local review committees.

Most refusals of parole result from their recommendations in cases not referred to the board.

Lord Harris added: "There is no intention at this stage to communicate the reason to prisoners. That would require a further extension of the experiment."

Clerk duped council into paying £3,100 bills

From Our Correspondent
Preston

Heath Eggen, aged 57, a council clerk, who said to have duped his council into paying 70 bills totalling £3,100 to further his ambition of seeing a sports pavilion built for local football teams to use, was jailed at Preston Crown Court yesterday for 12 months after pleading guilty to six specimen charges of deception and fraud.

Mr Eggen, of Wensley Road, Blackburn, a clerk earning £1,600 a year in the public services department of Blackburn District Council, had, it was stated, been allowed to order materials for the pavilion project through the council at discount prices so long as the cash was repaid.

Mr John Jackson, for the prosecution, said that Mr Eggen had paid back some of the money but later passed the bills straight to the council

and they were paid with ratepayers' money.

Det Sergeant Jack Entwistle said: "There has been a certain lack of supervision on the corporation's part. The offences were detected purely and simply by someone noticing that certain materials which should have been in a store were not there."

Mr Raymond Bennett, for the defence, said that Mr Eggen was the chairman of nine amateur football clubs and had had a passion to see the pavilion built at the Roe Lane West Sports and Social Club.

It was opened last September and was now making a profit of £500 a month. The club had offered to repay the council for the materials.

Judge Sellers expressed concern that the council had not checked Mr Eggen's work more closely and said he was amazed they had not sent a representative to court.

Archdiocese to sell South Africa shares

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Cardinal Hume and five auxiliary Roman Catholic bishops of Westminster have decided to sell all but one of the archdiocese's 11,211 shares in Consolidated Gold Fields to dissociate themselves from the company's policies towards black workers in South Africa.

They explain in a statement published today that they and the company's directors have been asking to meet the Government on the question.

The Inland Waterways Association welcomed the creation of a national navigation authority, but the British Waterways Board expressed regret that the Government had not accepted the method of achieving it recommended by the board. Moreover, without firm assurances on the future role of the board's freight services division, private investment would be placed in jeopardy, Sir Frank Price, its chairman, added.

The *Water Industry in England and Wales* by the new authority, 60p. Stationery Office, 60p. Leading article, page 15

Mr Pym blames party system for disillusion

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Parliament has got out of step with the people, who are becoming frustrated and leaving over unrealized expectations, Mr Francis Pym, Conservative frontbench spokesman on Commons affairs and despatch, said yesterday.

He told an audience of MPs and journalists at a press gallery luncheon that the Conservative party's poor economic record was the main cause of its falling popularity. It was not the failing economy which had brought about a "weakened Westminster."

Since the war politicians had based their appeal mainly on the methods by which they would bring about economic progress.

"So often the message goes out: prosperity is on our doorstep, or there is a boom around the corner," Mr Pym said. "As it happens that message was being sent out since the war, and clear economic growth seems to be presented as a bright, worked-for."

By pushing up expectations through wildly excessive promises, drastic and sudden corrective action had been necessary a way that would not otherwise have been the case.

Mr Pym added that the Conservative Party could not escape "an uncomfortable share of responsibility for the course of stop-go economics."

He thought the blame did not lie with Parliament as an institution, but with the way it had been operated. "I think all of us MPs would be hard put to answer for that we have a lot to answer for the course of stop-go economics."

For some time the two-party system had been deteriorating in its effectiveness; it was not working well enough for the national benefit today because the divide between the two sides of the House was too great.

The central political debate was about economics, the area in which the objectives of the parties were so different as to be irreconcilable.

The electorate was aware of disappointment and disillusion. Their instinct told them there was something wrong with the body politic, and they blamed politicians collectively.

The voting pattern showed their dissatisfaction. Votes for the two main parties had steadily declined, support for minor parties had increased.

Mr Pym thought most people would like a continuation of the more stable way in which politicians used to conduct politics.

Blame for this state of affairs was constantly laid at the door of Westminster, but Mr Pym said that Britain's predicament was partly political in character.

He saw the remedy in a return to "good will and the give-and-take of shared interest in the nation's prosperity." He would not return, he thought the House of Commons would become increasingly argumentative and bitter.

Unless the efficacy of the present system (of which he was a strong supporter) was rapidly restored, the public would insist on changes, and they would be right. They must have a system that worked.

Mr Pym said there was more in common now between the millions who voted Conservative, Labour and Liberal than the issues that divided them. Many did not want to like the choice offered and they chose, which ever they chose, they might get an unsatisfactory result.

But to deal with the present uncertainty, and to restore credibility to Parliament, Mr Pym said that the moment when the people next had a chance to say what they thought must not be long delayed.

Hopes of pruning £100m hospital safety cost

By Jerry Connolly
Construction News

The Department of Health and Social Security is working on alternatives to spending £100m on up-grading hospitals to meet fire safety standards.

That total was indicated in a rough costing after a fire in which 30 geriatric patients died. Now the department is working on a complex costing exercise the result of which is not expected for another year.

Each regional health authority was asked to submit lists of hospitals regarded as high, medium and low risk, which produced a countrywide sample of 350 out of 2,500 hospitals.

That was whittled down to 45 major "types." The department then broke them down into nearly 300 "building blocks".

The aim is to bring hospitals into line with the 1971 Fire

Precautions Act.

Opponents of full up-grading point out that there has been only one hospital death in the past ten years apart from geriatric and psychiatric units, where there have been disasters.

The Fire Protection Association describes psychiatric and geriatric units as major gaps in hospital fire protection.

And within the department the view is that hospitals could be made reasonably safe by concentrating on only those areas.

The costing exercise involves the DES, the Home Office, the Welsh Office and fire and health authorities throughout the country.

It was stopped for a time to concentrate on difficulties at the new Liverpool Royal Hospital, where it was feared up to £12m would have been needed to make the building safe.

Mr Mummery said the protection board had made calculations on a world-wide basis and the question should be addressed to them.

Earlier Mr Mummery said it was believed that there was no need to control the discharges until beyond the end of the century. A protection board paper in 1972 had said that there would be no local, national, or world public health problem of any significance before a date well into the twenty-first century.

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ST. EUROPE

blames compromise
disillusture
test ban
US

Our Correspondent
July 13

Many people in the United States are disappointed that the opening of consultations between the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain on a comprehensive test ban has not been achieved.

Mr. Fym said that the chief negotiator told a conference he regarded the opening of consultations as a "useful vision, perhaps a step towards a ban."

The American and British population has been told that the key condition for a ban, it was held, was the "cessation of nuclear weapons."

What people are looking for is a ban on the use of nuclear weapons in a conflict. The American and British population has been told that the key condition for a ban, it was held, was the "cessation of nuclear weapons."

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"La Pasionaria" casts her first vote in the new Cortes during polling to elect a Congress president.

New Cortes
gives up
formal dress

Continued from page 1

Cameras flashed incessantly when Senor Adolfo Suarez, the Prime Minister, entered the Cortes to be greeted first by Senor Santiago Carrillo, the Communist Party secretary-general.

"I feel very happy and tranquil," Senor Suarez told me. "I hope I shall be able to attend all the sessions."

Later, with his arm round the shoulders of Senor Ignacio Camunas, the Minister for the Cortes, who had been canvassing views on the election of a president, Senor Suarez greeted

congressmen in the corridors, along which are hung portraits of previous Cortes presidents.

The corridors echoed with fresh political views, for the only politics spoken in them for the past 38 years were those of General Franco's National Movement. The Cortes' last session was held in 1969 and the new one was elected on June 15.

After the adjournment, the Congress election went ahead. Members walked in the podium where their names were called to cast their vote in an old wooden urn. Senor Alberti and "La Pasionaria" were responsible for helping to count the votes.

The calling of names was faster than the depositing of votes so when Senor Fraga's name was called, Senor Carrillo was casting his vote, which raised many a smile.

Senor Fernando Alvarez de Miranda, the Christian Democratic leader, was elected Congress president pending the working out of Cortes regulations. Senor Antonio Fontan, a liberal of the centre, was elected president of the Senate.

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Exorcism priests on death charge

Aachenburg, West Germany, July 13.—Two Roman Catholic priests were formally charged today with causing the death of an epileptic woman who starved to death while they tried to drive out the devil she believed possessed her.

Fraulein Ameliese Michel, aged 25, died of malnutrition on July 1, 1976, at her home in the Bavarian village of Klingenberg. She weighed only 45 lb.

The public prosecutor's office here said the local priest, Father Ernst Alt, and Father Wilhelm Reuss, who conducted the exorcism, abused their positions of trust and harmed the young woman's welfare.

The two priests and Fraulein Michel's parents, Josef and Anna Michel, who requested the ritual exorcism, all face

charges of causing the girl's death by neglect. The prosecutor's office said Fraulein Michel could still have been saved by medical help a week before her death.

Fraulein Michel, a trainee school teacher, had been treated for epilepsy between 1969 and 1975. Then she began to believe she was possessed by the devil.

The Bishop of Würzburg, Dr. Josef Stenzel, gave permission for the 350-year-old ritual of driving out devils after the girl had been examined.

Reuter.

Argentina, France, July 13.—A 74-year-old French woman who had a man strapped to her bed for a week without food to "exorcise demons" was jailed today for three months and fined 36,000 francs (£4,300) for fraud and failing to help a person in danger.

Mme. Pierre Esnaut, known to neighbours who believe in her as "our lady of confidence" and to those who don't as "the sorcerer," denied any wrongdoing and told the court in this Normandy town that she had been possessed by devils and that to exorcise them his wife had to strap him to his bed with sheets and give him nothing except salt and water blessed by Mme Esnaut.

Mme Esnaut followed Mme Esnaut's advice but a week later police learnt of the incident and untied M. Leroy, who was weak but otherwise all right.—AP.

Brioni, the head of Fiat public relations in France, kept the gang informed with coded messages in the "dog's for sale" column of newspapers.

The \$2m (about £1,200,000) ransom was handed over at 8 pm last Friday on the Quai des Bergues in Geneva, where the Rhône cuts through the city. It was brought there by a member of the staff of the Credit Suisse, who had made contact with the gang four hours earlier.

With two suitcases full of money, he waited on the quay for a short while. Then one of the men arrived and showed him Signor Revelli-Beaumont's Diner's Club card as a form of pass. The men took the two suitcases and made off in a yellow Fiat which had followed him to the meeting place.

Fiat kidnap contacts met
in nave of Notre-Dame

From Ian Murray
Paris, July 13

Negotiations for the release of Signor Luchino Revelli-Beaumont, the kidnapped French Fiat executive, were conducted in the nave of Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris between M. Albert Chambon, a former French ambassador, and a Latin American representative of the kidnap gang.

M. Chambon, who served as ambassador in Peru, Costa Rica and Panama, was apparently contacted by Signor Revelli-Beaumont on June 23 and asked to help. His negotiations were carried out without the police having any idea of what was going on until the kidnap executive told them he was supposed to make contact with M. Chambon in Versailles after his release.

To keep police off the scent, Signor Revelli-Beaumont's son, Paolo, led them to believe that contact was being made with the kidnapers in Luxembourg, while negotiations to hand the money over in Geneva went on. M. Marc

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British girl's
body
is found

Versailles, July 13.—The body of a British tourist, Miss Fiona Topham, aged 18, has been found in a wood near here. Police said she had been murdered.

Her father, Mr. Rex Topham, from Oxford, near Sevenoaks, Kent, identified the body today, police said. She disappeared just over a week ago.

Miss Topham, a fashion student, took the boat train from Victoria station, London, on July 5 to spend a month's holiday with friends near Montauban, in south-west France.

She was to have been met by a schoolfriend in Paris, but because of a mix-up over train times she missed the rendezvous.

Police said Miss Topham's naked body was found on Saturday by a couple.

She appeared to have been strangled and had also suffered serious head injuries. There were indications that she had not been killed in the place where her body was found, police said.—Reuter.

Lightning kills scouts
Charlottesville-Mezieres, Belgium, July 13.—Two French scouts on a camping trip in the Ardennes mountains were killed by lightning last night.

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New light
thrown on
Nuremberg
trials

By Philip Howard

New facts about the Nuremberg trials are disclosed today in a book based on hitherto unpublished material, especially the detailed diaries of Francis Biddle, the chief American judge.

They confirm the indications in the British public records that Churchill and his Lord Chancellor, Simon, operated arbitrarily and independently of the Cabinet in pressing for a political rather than a judicial disposition of the top Nazi leaders. By this bland phrase of legalese they meant summary execution on capture.

Churchill persisted with his plan to shoot top Nazis on capture until almost the end of the war.

He abandoned it only when Stalin said that he was afraid that they would be accused of having killed Hitler and company out of a desire for personal revenge, and when looks of the plan were thought to be stiffening German resistance and threatening to lead to retaliation against British prisoners of war.

The documents show that there never was a fixed or well-defined Nuremberg policy. The allies stumbled into the business of a major trial of war criminals, the most important and doubtful trial of our century, and neither the government leaders nor the prosecutors grasped the uncertainties inherent in the enterprise.

Few realized that the trial would open a Pandora's box so full of implications that the proceedings would threaten to pass beyond the control of the governments.

The heart of the new material in the book is the detailed analysis of the judges' deliberations on each of the defendants. The eight judges, two from each of the four victor nations, were handicapped by the absence of precedent; by differences in their countries' legal systems; and by the interests of the governments which appointed them and presented the evidence; and ultimately by their own prejudices. They had to invent law and impose order on legal chaos.

Albert Speer poses a legitimate question. In the published prison diaries why was he sent to Spandau prison for 20 years? If he means why did the judges sentence him to 20 years rather than acquit him, sentence him to death, or give him some other punishment, he can find the answer in this first account of his judges' backstage deliberations.

The British and French judges sympathized with Speer so strongly that they wanted to impose only a token sentence. But the Soviet judges wanted him hanged; and although the American senior judge, Francis Biddle, was favourably impressed by Speer's personality, he too initially wanted Speer executed. Speer escaped the gallows and went to Spandau for 20 years because the British and French judges agreed to compromise on a longer term of imprisonment, thereby persuading Biddle to drop his demand for execution and accept a prison sentence instead.

The deliberations of the judges on Rudolf Hess make it clear that he got his life sentence by a doubtful process of Russian roulette. He is still alone in Spandau prison, still of questionable mental competency, and still there because of dubious actions by the tribunal and the obduracy of the Soviet Government.

From this first analysis of the judges' deliberations it is impossible to escape the conclusion that Streicher, for example, was hanged less for his crimes than his character, while Speer and Schacht escaped the gallows because of their backgrounds rather than any evidence in their favour.

Reaching Judgment at Nuremberg by Bradley F. Smith (Andre Deutsch, £6.50).

Brioni, the head of Fiat public relations in France, kept the gang informed with coded messages in the "dog's for sale" column of newspapers.

OVERSEAS

Neutron bombs would
deter communists,
President Carter says

Washington, July 13.—President Carter told Congress today that deployment of death ray neutron warheads would help deter communist attacks and make it less likely he would ever have to order their actual use.

But he also conceded that the weapons might have a "marginally negative" effect on American-Soviet arms negotiations.

At the urging of Senator Hubert Humphrey, the President sent to the Senate foreign relations committee and the armed services committee a previously secret statement about the controversial weapons. Some sources have objected to voting appropriations before studying the statement which legalists should have been rendered last year.

"In conclusion," the seven-page document said, "this weapon system (the neutron warhead for the Lance tactical missile) has no arms control advantages. To the extent it has any impact on ongoing arms control negotiations, the impact would be marginally negative."

A decision to cross the nuclear threshold would be the most agonizing decision to be made by any President. These weapons would not make that decision easier. But by enhancing deterrence, they could make it less likely that the President would have to face such a decision.

The National Security Council document reached the two congressional committees several hours after the Senate started a debate on whether to back production funds for the arms.

In the debate opponents of the neutron bomb urged the Senate not to enable the Carter Administration to put the weapon into production before Congress had received full information about it.

"We are being asked to tell the President that any judgment his Administration reaches is fine by us," Senator Edward Kennedy declared.

The debate on the weapon, which kills people with intense radiation but does relatively little property damage, was the second this month.

On July 1, the Senate defeated an attempt by Senator Mark Hatfield, a Republican, to bar money for production of the weapon. The vote then was 43-42 in favour of an amendment leaving money for the weapon in a public works bill.

Senator Hatfield told the Senate today that the use of neutron tactical weapons by Nato in a European conflict could cause a radioactive cloud with lethal effects lasting 6,000 years.—UPI and Reuter.

Brussels: European Nato states want President Carter to deploy the neutron bomb in Europe because it would not, like existing "dirty" nuclear weapons, kill millions of their own people in any war with the Warsaw Pact nations.

Informed sources at Nato headquarters here said that West Germany, where any Warsaw Pact war is likely to be fought, is particularly concerned about what strategists call "collateral damage"—the slaughter of friendly people as well as enemy troops.

Moscow: The Soviet Union today gave a warning against American deployment of the neutron bomb and accused General Alexander Haig, the Nato Supreme Commander, of covering up the truth about the "new tactical weapon." It was commenting on General Haig's vocal support of the bomb yesterday when he declared that it should be included in Nato's nuclear arsenal. Tass said the bomb would "complicate the Soviet-American talks on limiting strategic arms.—Reuter.

Leading article, page 15

From Our Correspondent
Ankara, July 13

General Semah Sancak, the Turkish Chief of General Staff, today issued a strongly worded warning against attempts "to provoke the Turkish armed forces."

He said that "such illogical and irresponsible acts, and statements should no longer be made, and necessary legal action should immediately be taken against those responsible." The message was broadcast on Turkish radio and carried by the semi-official Anatolian news agency.

"The Turkish armed forces will never follow those in quest of political adventure, and will always be opposed to all illegal actions," the general said, adding that the Army should not be made to waste its time on such subjects.

Although he did not name anyone, his statement came a day after speeches by Mr. Bulent Ecevit, the acting Prime Minister, and Mr. Halil Tunc, president of Turkey, Turkey's largest labour organization, implying military unrest over the formation of a three-party, right-wing coalition government by Mr. Suley-

man Demirel, the Prime Minister-designate.

But neither of the two leaders considered that General Sancak was referring to them in particular. Mr. Tunc said: "I simply said that the 'new tactical weapon' is a favour to democracy and has accepted the principles of Kemalism should take a definite stand. The Army too, is of course included, but I did not single them out. It would, in any case, be a contradiction for me, a Labour leader, to either provoke or call on the Army."

Sources close to Mr. Ecevit reported that the acting Prime Minister's words should in no way be interpreted as an over-reaction to a provocation of the Army.

"Military intervention in domestic politics has always been against Mr. Ecevit's personal philosophy," one source said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Demirel continued to bargain with his coalition partners, Mr. Necmettin Erbakan of the National Salvation Party and Mr. Alpaskan of the Nationalist Action Party, about the composition of the Cabinet they are trying to form.

From Our Correspondent
Sydney, July 13.—Four newspapers today reported that Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General of Australia, had resigned.

The Melbourne Sun, the Australian, the Sydney Morning Herald and the Sydney Daily Telegraph reported the resignation of the man who dismissed Mr. Gough Whitlam, the Labour Prime Minister, 20 months ago. The reports were published shortly after Government House in Canberra denied resignation rumours which swept the capital after Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, had made an unannounced visit to Sir John.—Reuter.

From Our Correspondent
Essex, July 13.—A Canadian journalist who arrived at Stansted Airport, Essex, last night on his release from detention in Uganda said his arrest was apparently for travelling without a visa.

Mr. Gerald Utting of the Toronto Star said he had interviewed President Amin formally and took notes before his arrest. He was then invited to the message room at the President's holiday home.

If there was a recent attempt on President Amin's life, the President had not been hurt.

Mr. Utting said he had heard nothing of Mr. Robert Scanlon, the Briton who disappeared in Uganda recently.

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Secret talks in Rome on Falklands

From Our Correspondent
Rome, July 13

Secrecy today surrounded the opening of a new round of talks between British and Argentine diplomats about the future of the Falkland Islands.

Officials from the British and Argentine embassies refused to give any details about the talks, which were said to have started with a working lunch. Argentina's negotiating team is headed by Senor Gualter Allara, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Britain is represented by Mr. Hugh Cortazzi, a deputy under-secretary at the Foreign Office.

Diplomatic sources here said they did not expect any breakthrough to be achieved at this new attempt to settle the long and bitter dispute over the islands as both sides are insisting on their previous positions.

Argentina claims "absolute and full sovereignty over the islands" which it calls the Islas Malvinas. Britain is not expected to transfer sovereignty over the islands, some 300 miles off the coast of Patagonia, against the wishes of its 1,700 inhabitants, most of them of British origin.

The talks are expected to last three days.

Ex-minister to launch Paris evening paper

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, July 13

A new evening paper called *L'Inform* is to be launched in Paris in September by the former Centrist minister, M. Joseph Fontanet. It will start with a print of 250,000 copies.

According to a statement issued today by M. Fontanet, he intends to take editorial responsibility. He gave an undertaking that it would give each journalist the right to "clear and honest" information to the readers.

The arrival of a paper of the Centre as the run up to the elections begins shows the need the party must feel to have a greater influence on public opinion through its own organ.

Paris, July 13.—The French Cabinet today agreed to give 100m francs (£12m) in aid to the area in south-west France devastated by flooding over the weekend. This money is to be used for making good the damage to property.

Saucers, spoons and sunken ships

This week *New Scientist* takes a fresh look at some best-selling fields of parascience and assesses where they stand today. Graham Massey has investigated the claims of a new book about the notorious "Bermuda Triangle"—that alleged graveyard for ships and planes in the western Atlantic. Ian Ridpath glances back over 30 years of unidentified flying objects and Joe Hanlon reviews the latest developments in spoon-bending, an art in which the skills fade rapidly as the controls are tightened up. More positively, Adrian Hope describes the "source books" of a US nuclear physicist who boldly seeks to tie together some of the stray, unexplained events of the past 200 years.

newscientist
Every Thursday 30p

OVERSEAS

White House asks Senate to help Budget Director facing \$1.5m loss on forced shares sale

From Frank Vogel
Washington, July 13

President Carter has written to a Senate committee asking it to help rescue his old friend, former partner, one-time banker and current Administration Budget Director, Mr. Bert Lance, from possibly grave financial difficulties.

Mr. Lance currently faces the prospect of losing at least \$1.5m (€880,000), unless the Senate's government affairs committee decides to revise an agreement with him that forces him to sell a large amount of bank shares by the end of the year.

Mr. Lance said today that whatever the committee decides he will not resign.

The "Lance Affair" as it is swiftly coming to be known, has all the ingredients of the sort of personality-conflict-interests-White House scandal that Washington so greatly enjoys in the lazy and humid summertime.

Mr. Lance is an outspoken, ebullient and colourful new comer to the nation's capital. About 20 years ago he was just a junior bank clerk in the tiny town of Calhoun, Georgia, but today he is among the most influential members of the White House. Indeed some observers call him the "Deputy President".

Mr. Lance's troubles started early this year when the Senate government affairs committee considered his appointment as Director of the Office of Management and Budget. American conflict-of-interest laws are vague and at the time the new President had not yet drafted his own conflict-of-interest guidelines. The committee decided that Mr. Lance should sell all his stock in the National Bank of Georgia by the end of this year.

Mr. Lance agreed at the time to this requirement. He had bought 190,800 shares in the bank in 1975 for about \$17 each and he had borrowed about \$2.7m to do this. At the start of this year, the shares were quoted at about \$15.

Mr. Lance had run the bank and greatly boosted its business to the point where in Atlanta the bank was often called "the Lance Bank". Once he joined the Carter Administration, the value of the bank's shares started to decline. This became even greater when it became known that Mr. Lance would have to sell the shares.

Then the bank announced it had \$2.3m of real estate losses and would stop distributing dividends, and the shares fell

still further to about \$9.50 today.

Mr. Lance took something like a \$50,000 a year cut in his salary to join the Administration and he received about \$153,000 in dividend income from the Atlanta Bank. The dividend income has stopped, and Mr. Lance, besides facing the prospect of having to sell his shares at a time when they have a low value, also has to make regular interest payments on some \$5m of bank borrowings.

These developments are going to place Mr. Lance under substantial financial pressure. He wants to put his bank shares into a blind trust and let the trustee sell them whenever he can agree to a private deal, without facing the Senate's conflict-of-interest guidelines.

No other Government official has been forced to sell shares and such sales are not required under President Carter's conflict-of-interest guidelines.

Mr. Lance said today that the Senate asked him to sell his shares because the rules of conflict of interest were so vague when he faced the Senate committee. "I just happened to be first," he said.

The Senate committee will review the situation tomorrow.



Washington visit: Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, arrived in Washington yesterday for two days of deliberations with President Carter. (From left: Frau Schmidt, Mrs. Carter, Herr Schmidt, Mr. Carter.) The Chancellor, who came from Canada, where he is reported to have secured an agreement on the imminent resumption of uranium shipments to West Germany and Britain, is likely to find the going more difficult in the American capital. President Carter is still unhappy about West Germany's determination to press ahead with the sale of

nuclear reactors and uranium recycling technology to Brazil. Herr Schmidt can also expect to come under renewed pressure to do more to stimulate Western economic recovery by increasing West German consumption. The Chancellor will want to explain his government's concern about President Carter's tough human rights campaign and the mistrust this has produced in the Soviet Union. Bonn has made it clear on numerous occasions that it is afraid a deterioration in East-West relations is likely to undermine its Ostpolitik.

Palestinians reject Carter plan

From Robert Fisk
Beirut, July 13

President Carter's idea of a Palestinian homeland "died" in Jordan yesterday when the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) rejected his plan. Its official spokesman in Beirut insisted that every yard of Palestinian territory recovered from Israel as part of a Middle East peace settlement should belong to "a 100 per cent independent Palestinian state".

Mr. Carter never suggested that a Palestinian state linked to Jordan should be an obligatory step towards a Middle East peace, but the Palestinians were under no illusions about the pressures which could be brought to bear upon them to accept such a notion.

The more moderate Arab leaders want a future Palestinian state to have only semi-independent status. Only this week, King Hussein of Jordan said that the future Palestine should be "linked" with Jordan.

Mr. Mahmoud Labadi, the official PLO spokesman, said this morning that while the Palestinians were pleased with Mr. Carter's recognition of the need for a Palestinian homeland, such a homeland must have sovereign status. "As far as we are concerned," he said, "the ultimate decision on the Palestinian future should and will be ours. That decision belongs to no one else."

Mr. Labadi's statement, however, was not quite as harsh as it might at first appear. The PLO has nothing against what it calls "a special relationship" with Jordan, since at least a million Palestinians live within the Hashemite kingdom, but it is frightened of being incorporated into Jordan itself as a kind of satellite nation whose leaders would be forced to obey the orders of the rest of the Arab world.

Earlier today, the PLO had issued a pointed statement criticising the agreement reached between King Hussein and President Sadat in Egypt. The two men, it said, had no right to try to shape the Palestinian future. Several Arab leaders, it should be added, believe that the enormous sacrifice in blood and wealth that their nations have made for the Palestinians, they do have some right to shape the future of a Palestinian state.

Cairo, July 13.—President Sadat said today that he will not end the state of war with Israel, except after the last Israeli soldier evacuates Arab land. He offered to set up diplomatic and trade relations with the Jewish state five years after a peace treaty is signed.

Speaking to a delegation of American congressmen in Alexandria, Mr. Sadat demanded American weapons to defend Egypt against the Soviet infiltration of Africa. "As long as there is a single Israeli soldier on our soil, I cannot and the state of war, or else I would be inviting the Israelis to stay on our territory," he said.

Mr. Sadat said "the time was ripe" to conclude an Arab-Israeli peace treaty at the Geneva conference, calling for an Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands, ending the state of war and extending "guarantees" such as the creation of demilitarized zones, the stationing of United Nations troops and setting up early warning stations, to both Israel and the Arabs.

The Israeli withdrawal from Arab lands captured in the 1967 war "could be made in stages, for example, in three stages. But it should not take more than six months". But the peace treaty, he suggested, "should not take effect except after the withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier".

Asked about the Israeli demands for exchanging diplomatic and trade relations with the Arabs as part of an overall settlement, Mr. Sadat said: "After 29 years of bitterness, war and conflict, the two sides have no confidence in each other. Borders cannot be opened and diplomatic and trade relations cannot be set up all at once, because these are matters related to sovereignty."

But five years after ending the state of war, signing the peace treaty and the stabilization of security, the road can be opened to everything."

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General Zia advises party leaders to rest

From Our Correspondent
Islamabad, July 13

General Zia-ul-Haq, the Pakistani army chief of staff and chief martial law administrator, has a telephone conversation yesterday with Mr. Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, who is in "protective custody" at Murree, a hill station 39 miles from here. General Zia also spoke to Maulana Mufi Mahmood, the president of the Pakistan National Alliance, who is also detained in Murree. General Zia had previously advised both leaders "to rest and relax" and to "think of the future of the country".

He also told reporters that the committee set up to formulate a plan and procedures for a general election to be held in October was presided over by Mr. Justice Mansoor Mahmood, a High Court judge, and included Mr. Justice Dorab Patel and Mr. Sharifuddin Pirzada, the Attorney General, as members. Mr. Ziaul-Haq is a Supreme Court judge and acting chief election commissioner in place of Mr. Sajjad Ahmad Jan, who is undergoing medical treatment.

General Zia said that his "90-day operation" to put the country back to normal and arrange the election was continuing smoothly.

The judges' committee is also expected to formulate a code of conduct for political parties contesting the election. A code of conduct for journalists is also being evolved to give guidelines to the press during martial law period.

Eight days after the military takeover, not a single case is reported to have been brought to the court under martial law regulations which were promulgated on Sunday. Because of the retrospective effect from July 5, five special military courts and 21 summary military courts have been set up all over the country to try martial law violations.

A spokesman for the martial law today that most ordinary offences would come under criminal and civil laws. Martial law regulations were expected to be applied in cases which required special measures, such as a curfew, or in cases involving serious crimes, such as the amputation of a hand will be subject of confirmation by the chief martial law administrator but cannot be challenged in a court of law, including the Supreme Court.

Mr. Bhutto was also quoted as saying that some powers were withheld from destroying Pakistan and that was why he had tried to secure a settlement. He said he was advised by his supporters to calm and keep up their morale.

The special military courts will consist of three members, including a senior magistrate and will be headed by an army lieutenant-colonel. Death sentences and those providing for the amputation of a hand will be subject of confirmation by the chief martial law administrator but cannot be challenged in a court of law, including the Supreme Court.

There has been no public criticism of the present situation, although the matter is being privately discussed. In fact the reference to Islamic law in that matter caused favourable comments in most Punjab newspapers. Maulana Mufi Mahmood, the president of the Pakistan National Alliance, is reported to have expressed appreciation of General Zia's decision to introduce Muslim law against theft.

Some 17 leaders of both the Pakistan National Alliance and the Pakistan People's Party, including Mr. Bhutto, have been able to communicate with their families and friends by telephone and obtain books, newspapers and other necessities from their homes. They are kept in what is officially described as temporary, protective custody in various government buildings, including the high resorts of Murree and Abbottabad. Mr. Bhutto is staying in the Prime Minister's residence in Murree.

Despite martial law regulations prohibiting any political activities, newspapers in Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi have published statements by both opposition and government party leaders, including Mrs. Nurset Bhutto, the wife of the ousted Prime Minister, and chief organizer of the women's wing of the People's Party.

Musawat, the Urdu newspaper at Lahore and Karachi owned by Mr. Bhutto, has been carrying almost every day statements attributed to him. Newspapers of both sides tend to give the impression that the campaign for the general election due in October has already begun.

Musawat today quoted Mr. Bhutto as saying that he would "go to the people's court very soon to seek justice". He had faith in the "judgment of the people" and was confident of his victory.

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India abolishes system of awards for civilians

From Kuldip Nayer
Delhi, July 13

India has abolished the civilian awards it introduced in the early 1950s to recognize those who distinguished themselves in the fields of science, literature, art and public life.

The awards were instituted after the abolition of titles at the end of the British Raj and Nehru was one of the recipients.

In Parliament today, Mr. Desai, the Prime Minister, gave a categorical assurance that

India could carry out no further nuclear explosions, but he added that he would not make the commitment "for all future time." India exploded an underground nuclear device in 1974.

Mr. Desai was replying to a question as to whether the United States had sought certain guarantees before supplying uranium.

Mr. Desai said it was true that the explosion had created all kinds of difficulties and had been misunderstood. All that had been cleared now.

Nurse guilty of poisoning three at US hospital

From Our Correspondent
New York, July 13

Two nurses were today found guilty of poisoning three patients at a veterans' hospital in Ann Arbor, near Detroit. The patients had died as a result of excessive injections of Pavulon, a muscle-relaxing drug.

The case arose out of 50 breathing failures among patients at the hospital in July and August, 1975. The trial of the two nurses, Miss Philipina Narciso and Mrs. Leonora Perez, both from the Philippines, lasted 13 weeks and the jury took more than two weeks to reach its verdict.

The judge directed a verdict of acquittal on additional charges of negligence and conspiracy of murder. The prosecuting attorneys did not offer a motive.

Thai-Malaysian troops take communist camp

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, Thailand, July 13

Thai and Malaysian troops on an anti-guerrilla operation in the jungle along the common border, today captured a communist rebel camp, the military commanders reported.

The camp, seven miles north of the Bangkok-Yala road close to a tin mine, had been occupied recently by Kien Chen, a member of the central committee of the Marxist-Leninist faction of the Communist Party of Malaysia.

Reporters were told in Kuala Lumpur that the year would mark the beginning of the end for the outlawed Communist Party and that the estimated 5,000 guerrillas along the border would be wiped out by the end of the year. —Agence France-Press.

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July/September Issue

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From

Envoy of Ocean Islanders in London talks

By Robert Berlins

The Rev Tebuke Roran, the Banabans representative, had talks yesterday with Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, over the future of Ocean Island.

The Banabans, the original inhabitants of Ocean Island, but now living on Rabi, an island near Fiji, are seeking independence from the Gilbert Islands.

The British Government has made an ex gratia offer to the Banabans of more than £5m, in compensation for the mining exploitation of their homeland, Ocean Island, by the British Phosphate Commission.

Mr. Roran told Dr Owen that the Banabans would accept the offer only if it was tied to an understanding that Ocean Island, where they want to return, would be separated from the Gilberts.

It is understood that Dr Owen explained that the British Government was in a difficult position over the Banabans' independence claim because of opposition from the Gilbert Islands.

Mr. Roran said the great powers had a duty to "make a serious effort" towards ensuring Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories.

The situation of the armed forces was really dreadful and morale was down, Mr. Arthur Mathewson, director of defence relations in the Department of External Affairs, said.

Equipment was getting tatty and tanks were being kept going with wire and chewing gum," he added, in a reference to the

Arab centre opened by Dr Owen

By Our Foreign Staff

Britain and its European partners "will play any part we can" in achieving a peaceful settlement in the Middle East, Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said in London yesterday.

He was opening the new Arab-British Centre in Collins Road, South Kensington. Mr. Mahmoud Riad, secretary-general of the Arab League, was also present. Mr. Riad said that the centre (which houses a variety of non-official Anglo-Arab bodies) could play "an exceedingly important role" in changing the image which Arabs and Muslims have of each other and "promoting in the minds of each one of us a wholesome image of the other party".

Dr Owen's statement was seen by some Arab observers as strengthening the commitment given last month by EEC heads of government to play a part in finding and implementing a Middle East peace settlement.

He omitted the words "to extend the parties' wish" contained in the EEC declaration. Arabs believe that concern is growing in Europe and the United States about the uncertain attitude of the new Israeli Government, and that European governments are becoming ready to put overt pressure on Israel.

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Israeli Cabinet supports Beigin peace proposals

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, July 13

In Jerusalem today the Israeli Government gave Mr. Beigin, the Prime Minister, mandate to present his proposals for a Middle East peace settlement to President Carter when they meet in Washington next week.

Mr. Beigin drafted his proposals earlier this week in consultations with the Foreign and Defence Ministers, and submitted them in writing to the Cabinet today. An official communiqué said the text was submitted in writing "to preclude any impression".

The communiqué said all members of the Cabinet took part in the discussions and the

proposals were approved unanimously.

A strict blackout on details of the plan was maintained. Mr. Beigin said in an interview after the meeting that the decision to make the plan public was secret and would be published in due course. He explained: "Out of respect for the President of the United States, he must be the first to hear the proposals."

A reliable informant said the proposals were specific and dealt with a final peace settlement. They did not cover the option of interim agreements. Mr. Dayan, the Foreign Minister, had talked about partial settlements including the Golan Heights, but Mr. Beigin was definitely opposed to them, the source added.

21 charged over student's initiation death

Manila, July 13.—Police said today that 21 students, including girls, have been charged in connection with the death of a student after initiation rites by a college fraternity.

Teofilo Nicola, aged 22, died of head injuries after being taken to hospital by fellow students with bruises and with the sign of a cross marked on his stomach, a police spokesman said.

"Flagging" has been banned at Philippine colleges and institutions following the death of a student in an initiation last year.

Plan to get power from Dead Sea

From Our Correspondent
Tel Aviv, July 13

Israelis who led the world in applying solar energy for water heating are now working on a scheme to tap the Dead Sea as a solar heat collector for a huge electric power plant.

The non-profit Scientific Research Foundation of Jerusalem has revived a solar pond research project it had dropped a decade earlier, and has already heated Dead Sea brine to 117°C by solar radiation. The scientists, through a newly formed commercial company, are under contract by the Israeli Government to produce a four-acre solar pond to supply all the energy for air conditioning and hot water in a 100-room seaside hotel.

The researchers said they found simple solutions to the problems that had earlier stumped them but they were keeping details secret. "We are just copying nature," hinted Mr. Binyamin Doron, project manager of the solar pond research system.

The scientists have created beds of warmed water which hold together and retain their heat rather like the Gulf Stream which stays warm as it flows thousands of miles across the Atlantic.

They partly evaporate as they "surface" and come into contact with the atmosphere.

But there are exceptional bodies of water where temperatures are higher in the depths. The waters there are heavy with minerals. The sun's heat reaches them, but they are too heavy to rise. The upper layers of water serve as insulators, preventing evaporation. Thus the heated waters are trapped below.

In a natural saline pool south of Eilat, for instance, the water 10ft down is 60°C compared with 20-25°C at the surface. We are creating the same thing artificially," Mr. Doron said.

The researchers have developed a technique to pour brine of progressively less saline waters over the brine without diffusing it.

Mr. Zvi Tabor, head of the research foundation, began working on the technology in association with Dr. Rudy Bloch, chief scientist of the Dead Sea chemical works. They pioneered the theory that people of water were the answer to the problems that impeded the exploitation of solar energy—the high cost and the vast areas required for the metal devices to collect the sun's rays.

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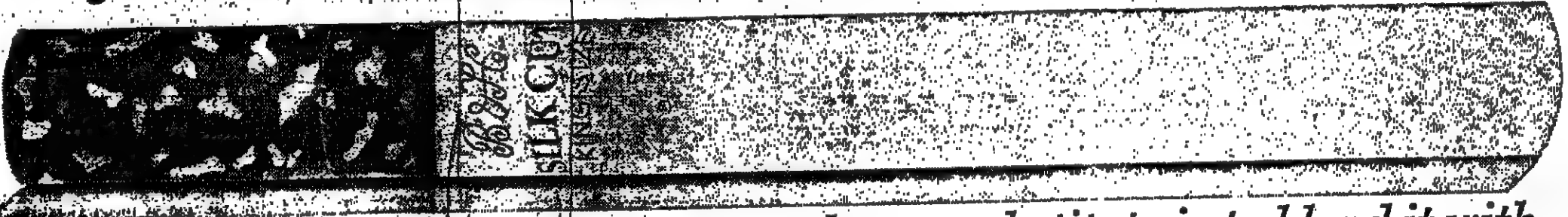
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Silk Cut with tobacco substitute.

14 years of development rolled into one cigarette.



The most sensible way to use tobacco substitute is to blend it with tobacco to produce a cigarette which the Government is prepared to define as low tar.

In the 14 years since Silk Cut first saw the light of day, we've been trying to find ways to make it lower in tar.

This year, the Government gave their agreement to a method of further reducing tar: cigarettes containing a proportion of tobacco substitute.

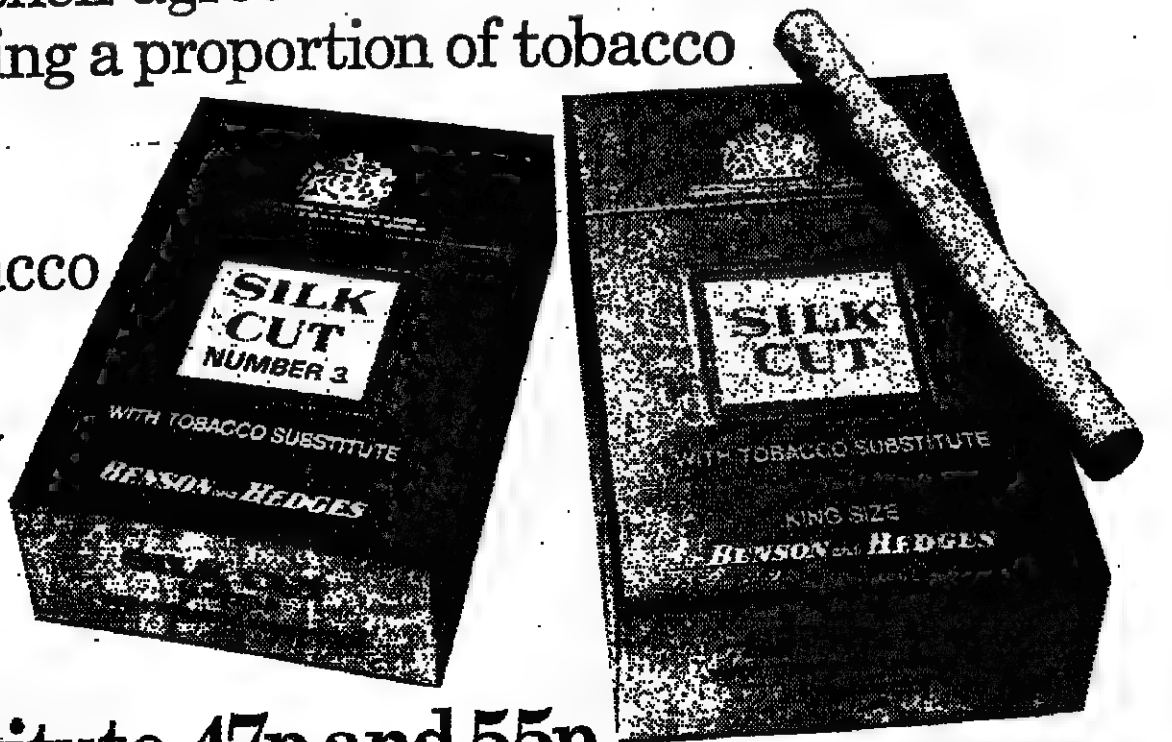
Hence our new cigarette.

It's a blend of three-quarters tobacco to one-quarter tobacco substitute.

Consequently, it offers smokers a touch more flavour than conventional Silk Cut. And, as you would expect, a touch less tar.

Silk Cut with tobacco substitute, 47p and 55p.

Recommended retail prices.



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STAND

where some restraint in manner may at last be in evidence.

Finally, there is no reason to accept Mr Hart's belief that the Iranian left-wing option is "planned, directed and financed from abroad". In the talk of a policeman—in Tehran as

as vague. Whenever, in national links these opponents have, the cause of their ties lies in the suppression of freedom in Iran itself. Then indeed a "fear of democracy in Iran; but it is a fear, fostered by the man who abrogated the Iranian constitution, crushed all political sentiment, and silenced the press is a fear made actual by pervasive actions of a police. Iran is not the country where democracy

The writer is a Fellow of Transnational Institute, Amsterdam, and author of *Iran: Dictatorship and Repression* (Penguin, 1979).

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son's, York, is an old people's day centre. St Martin-at-Oak, Norwich, is a night shelter sleeping 14 otherwise shelterless people. The Yvray of Lincoln College, - Oxford, has found a grand home in All Saints. A Manchester church has become a training centre for police dogs: the cast-iron columns have found a new use as substitute lamp-posts.

This rich and stimulating exhibition has been organized by Marcus Binney and Peter Bunting, of the Barbican.

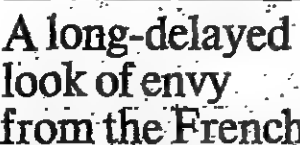
"The church is usually the focal community building in any settlement. Often it is the only building of any age or character. Even the poorest or most remote area can usually boast one fine old building in its church. There is more scope for the survival of the churches than for the survival of our country houses. For every problem church there is another church in similar circumstances which has found a triumphant solution."

Two books are being published

Change and Decay by Sandra Vatta. Illustrated essays on the theme of the exhibition, £8.25 hardback, £3.75 paperback; and **Chapels and Churches: Who Cares**, a British Tourist Authority report, £5.95.

Philip Howard

makes the marmalade that makes the British breakfast



6The only way to
catch a bus is to
be underpaid, Brown.

and work for
Grunick...9



For "Epsom Downs", the

For "Epsom Downs", the new play at the Round House which will open next month, I am told that the designer has created "an entirely new auditorium . . . and the circular nature of the building will be echoed by circular seating". Theatres in the round offering

Death-defying act on the beach

t on the beach

Chariraria

Do noisy in the water too long—neither after the first shiver; do not absolutely bathe in ponds and quarries—the mud-bottom is able to resuscitate you very out.

Most rainy is the season, which claims that, in the Ravena, mammals or, at least, there is a thing as life after death. Again, I quote: "If still respiration is given to one, it can give back the life to a bather who has been roared ashore after a short roasting."

Maudie in Drury Lane is air-conditioned and has the best hors d'oeuvres table in London. It is, of course, named after Maudie Littlehampton and the walls both of the restaurant and bar are covered with original Osbert Lancaster cartoons. The service is friendly and the cost is con-

Where there's
a wheel:

The cafeteria at the Tate Gallery has obviously been trained in spotting imitations. "Pure coffee" (whatever that might mean) sells for an astonishing 32p a cup, while "instant coffee" is only 15p.

Mindbending experience

Not only was he a Presidential candidate in 1972, but he was a great surfer on the west coast. Harvey Wellbanger, after surfing through the waves

after surging through the eye of a number of waves, let it all hang out one day a decade or so ago by taking (in his favourite beach club) an ex-

Such was the effect of this astounding concoction that poor Harvey banged into a

the walls on his way out. For an H.W. as served to me yesterday, take Max's vodka, a little fresh orange juice, pour over ice and lace liberally with

is one of the best-ordered conference now taking place, despite a union membership of business every day during a simple rule: anyone who up to the general secretary, fined the...

THE TIMES

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Obituary
MR William J. Britton
Founding member, page 19

Saudi Arabia will impose 18-month oil price freeze by Opec members

Shaikh Yamani said the decision in December must be based on world economy.
Dr Jamshid Amouzegar, the Iranian delegate, went even further. Opec would not be in existence after the next two or three years, he said, because supply and demand would force up prices, regardless.
Today's final session of the conference ended with the much-publicized unity still intact but with many delegates visibly worried about the slow growth in the economies of the oil exporting countries and the possibility of a price freeze.

The idea will not be to raise the price just for the sake of raising it. Dr Amouzegar said. In the past we have noticed that when we raised the price of oil by 10 per cent we had to pay 12 per cent more for the goods we import, so in the final analysis we are the losers.
Shaikh Yamani said a price ceiling on Saudi oil production for 18 months would be decided by the end of the year. Saudi oil output was running at about nine million barrels a day but this might fall because of the lack of demand.
If demand for oil began to pick up Saudi Arabia could make the oil available but a rapid pick-up in the world economy and the consequent improvement in oil sales might also cause Saudi Arabia's support for a lengthy price freeze to evaporate, he said.
The only major decision taken by the conference was to have off the five producers of heavy and medium crudes—Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and Kuwait and Venezuela—into a separate working party to tackle the problem of price differentials.
Kuwait, which was hardest hit because of the high cost of its medium and heavy crudes during the past six months of two-tier pricing, raised the question of differentials. Shaikh Yamani said if the other countries could bring their prices down to the level of Saudi crudes it would be possible for them to sell more oil to the refineries of Europe and Japan.

It is the price of oil that is linked directly to the price of everything else. Opec members have frequently increased their prices in the past few years, but the world has not seen a corresponding increase in prices of other commodities. The price of oil is a factor in the price of everything else. The price of oil is a factor in the price of everything else. The price of oil is a factor in the price of everything else.

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Community tightens controls on textiles

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, July 13

Imports into the EEC of cotton yarn, T-shirts, men's shirts and women's blouses from nine African, Mediterranean and Asian countries will be held roughly to 1976 levels during the second half of this year under quota restrictions approved here today by the European Commission.

The countries affected by the curbs are Egypt, Colombia, India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey and Spain. Imports from other important suppliers, such as Hong Kong, South Korea, are already subject to quantitative controls under bilateral agreements.

The Commission's measures were adopted in response to unilateral controls on textile imports imposed by the French at the end of last month.

Herr Manfred Caspari, deputy director-general in the Commission's external relations department, said today that France would be expected to suspend its unilateral measures forthwith.

The Commission justifies its measures on the grounds that imports of the items covered by the new curbs have increased sharply and by substantial amounts during recent months.

Earlier this month, during negotiations on renewal of the Gatt Multi-Fibre Arrangement in Geneva, Mr. Traa Van Thien, the Commission's representative, claimed that between 1973 and 1976 3,500 textiles factories had closed in the Community, with a loss of 580,000 jobs, under pressure of foreign competition.

The curbs agreed today will limit total imports of cotton yarn to 1,200 tonnes between July 1 and December 31 from Egypt, Colombia, Spain and India to 6,662 tonnes. The British share of this quota will be 228 tonnes.

Exports of T-shirts from Spain, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Tunisia, to France, Denmark, the Benelux countries, Germany and Britain will be restricted over the same period to 3,649,000 pieces. A quota for Turkish exports of this article to Germany, Britain and France will be 1,000,000 pieces.

French imports of men's shirts from Morocco and Tunisia will be held to 866,000 pieces. A quota for Turkish exports of women's blouses to France will be fixed later.

Lord Cullen is then expected to weigh in with a request for its total removal.

Lord Terrington's case will be based on the adverse effect the surrender rule has had on London as a market in international securities, and he will point out that the average turnover in British-owned foreign currency securities is only 8 per cent, against the average 40 per cent turnover in United Kingdom portfolios.

CBI adamant on 10pc pay ceiling

By Malcolm Brown

Industrial leaders yesterday warned the Government against trying to use the Price Commission to implement pay policy. A delegation from the CBI, led by its president, Lord Waddington, saw Mr. Healey for 15 minutes immediately after an emergency meeting of the CBI president's advisory committee of top industrialists and state industry chiefs.

The CBI told the Chancellor that if the Government did not stick firmly to an absolute ceiling of 10 per cent on the total pay bill over the next 12 months there was no chance of reducing inflation to single figures by next year.

After the meeting Mr. John Methven, director general of the CBI, said that if there was to be no pay policy agreed with the TUC then price controls should go too.

It would be unjust to enforce the 12-month rule through the Price Commission, said Mr. Methven. Employers should not be penalized if they attempted an emergency rise in wages in order to stand up to unions intent on breaking the 12-month rule.

Mr. Healey was also reminded of an undertaking from the Government that if no pay policy is agreed then dividend and profit margin controls would lapse.

The CBI team insisted that the Government must stick to the 12 months rule on pay settlements and not make room for phoney productivity deals.

Employers are particularly concerned that productivity deals could be used to circumvent the 12 months rule by allowing unions to clinch deals during the currency of an existing agreement.

The CBI is against productivity deals per se in the present climate, arguing that they are no more than an escape hatch to inflation. But if such deals were to be concluded the CBI would insist that they must not begin until the full 12 months period of an existing pay agreement had ended.

Mr. Healey was urged by the CBI team to take a strong line on tax concessions. It is thought that the Government would be prepared to make concessions on tax concessions. It is thought that the Government would be prepared to make concessions on tax concessions.

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Rolls-Royce intervenes to prevent Hawker takeover of L. Gardner

By Nicholas Hirst

Rolls-Royce Motors yesterday entered the market to buy shares in L. Gardner, diesel engine manufacturer, to prevent an early takeover by Hawker Siddeley.

Hawker announced the terms of its agreed offer, which will have an equivalent share alternative, after the statement by the chairman, Mr. Ian Fraser, that the company was keeping its options open.

But with directors of Gardner undertaking to accept in respect of their holdings of 4.3 per cent of the equity relatively small buyings in the market could have pushed Hawker into a controlling position.

The action by Rolls-Royce in going into the market effectively prevented Hawker buying, without putting up its offer to all shareholders.

Hawker's bid, which values Gardner at £14.7m, is conditional on clearance by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

A statement yesterday said the Gardner range of diesel engines was complementary with that of Hawker Siddeley and served a different market.

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Societies' receipts fell to £304m last month

By Margaret Stone

Building society net receipts in June plunged from an all-time high of £511m in the previous month to £304m. The total for April was £475m.

Mr. Norman Griggs, secretary general of the Building Societies Association, said last night that the figures were disappointing but that the industry was still going on.

Building society lending was still going on at a spanking rate and even if new money coming into the societies levelled off at around the £500m a month.

In June the societies lent £518m to house buyers and promised a further £637m, the second highest monthly commitment on record. The societies are still on target to meet, if not exceed, the £1,000m target for the year.

The sharp reduction in the net inflow in June arises from a lower level of gross investment—£1,066m compared with £2,296m in May—rather than a fall in the level of new lending. These were, in fact, marginally lower at £762m.

The shortfall in gross receipts is attributed to three main factors. First, there is a limit to the amount of money which can be transferred from one savings system to another.

Second is the impact of the recent BP sale of shares, although one optimistic note is that the societies hope to see some of the refunds from these investors who were unsuccessful in securing an allocation.

The third reason is that it is the start of the holiday season, particularly the holiday paying season.

However, in the light of the June figures the societies feel justified that they did not let the investment rate fall too low when they announced the cut to 6.7 per cent last month.

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Company seeks court ban on DoT inquiry

Norwest Holst Ltd, the multi-million pound civil engineering company, has asked the High Court yesterday that the Department of Trade should be ordered to give its reasons for ordering an inquiry into the company's affairs.

The company could not take steps to rectify the "supposed matters of complaint" because it was being kept in ignorance of what they were, Mr. Stanley Brodie, QC, stated.

He asked Mr. Justice Foster to declare invalid the department's appointment of two inspectors, Mr. Lewis Davies, QC, and Mr. Thomas Harding, to conduct the inquiry.

The company contended that the appointment exceeded Mr. Del, the Secretary of State for Trade's authority, and sought an injunction to stop the inspectors exercising their investigative powers.

The minister asked that the company's complaint should be "struck out" as not disclosing any reasonable cause of action as being frivolous, vexatious and an abuse of the process of the court.

Mr. Brodie said the public company had an issued share capital of £2,227,000, divided into 25p shares, with a current value of about 70p. It had always made substantial profits, except in the year ended March 1975. In the following year its profits were £2.3m, and in the year ended March 1977 they rose to a record £3.5m.

"There has never been any question about the solvency of the company—its balance sheet has always been strong," said Mr. Brodie. "There has never been any doubt about its ability to pay creditors, or anything of that sort."

Last November the company was informed that the Secretary of State for Trade had appointed two inspectors to examine the company's books and documents under section 109 of the 1967 Companies Act.

"The company was perfectly happy to cooperate with the inspectors," Mr. Brodie, went on. "The inspectors asked to see documents, and were shown them."

But on March 11, without any warning or prior indication of any trouble whatsoever, the minister appointed Mr. Davies and Mr. Harding as inspectors to investigate the affairs of the company.

Mr. Brodie said the company wrote to the minister asking him to disclose the circumstances in which he appointed the inspectors and the evidence on which he based his decision. The minister refused.

The company replied that the minister's failure to give any indication of the nature of the alleged offences, or the persons alleged to be responsible for them, seemed hardly just or equitable, and prevented the company from taking effective steps to rectify the supposed matters of complaint.

The company's business, and its client relationships, were being adversely affected. The Department of Trade replied that it was not its practice to disclose to the company concerned details of the information leading to the appointment of inspectors, and was advised by counsel that it was under no legal obligation to do so.

The hearing continues.

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Robert Jenkins (Holdings) Limited
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ANNUAL RESULTS

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Year to 31 March		
Revenue	14,716	13,480
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Points from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. A. Robert Jenkins, CBE, JP

- Record year for Group. Profits exceed forecast made at time of going public.
- Policy of balanced diversification showed value in difficult economic circumstances.
- Current year has started reasonably well.

The Company's shares are traded on The Over-the-Counter Market. Details of this market together with copies of the full Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Robert Jenkins (Holdings) Limited, Rotherham, Yorkshire, S61 1LT. Telephone 0709-64901.

Lords question on retention of dollar premium

By Our Financial Staff

There will be an attempt this evening to get the Government to explain its reasons for maintaining controls on investment in foreign securities, notably by the dollar premium.

Lord Terrington, a former partner in the stockbrokers Sheppards & Chase, has tabled a question in the House of Lords asking the Government to reduce the 25 per cent investment currency surrender rule to 10 per cent.

Lord Cullen is then expected to weigh in with a request for its total removal.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 134.87 + 1.52
The FT index: 449.9 + 3.6

Rises	
Underley	6p to 48p
Barclays Bk	8p to 28p
GE	6p to 26p
L Gardner	10p to 30p
Norfolk Ext	35p to 48p
Sel Trust	15p to 45p
Coltess Grp	8p to 60p
Tate & Lyle	6p to 20p

Falls	
Falvey	7p to 7p
Ayer Miam	10p to 10p
Neg & Zambra	6p to 6p
BP	4p to 91p

Equities edged ahead in thin conditions. Gift-edged securities were boosted by money supply hopes. The pound fell 110.5 pence per cent (effective rate 39.25 pence). Sterling gained 4p to £1.724. The effective exchange rate index was at 61.0.

THE POUND

Bank buys Bank sells

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia \$	1.58	1.53
Austria Sch	29.00	27.00
Belgium Fr	62.25	60.25
Canada \$	1.25	1.20
Denmark Kr	15.60	10.20
Finland Mk	7.10	6.85
France Fr	8.58	8.26
Germany Dr	7.76	7.41
Greece Dr	62.75	60.75
Hong Kong \$	8.30	7.85
Italy Lr	1,545.00	1,490.00
Japan Yn	475.00	450.00
Netherlands Gld	4.57	4.45
Norway Kr	9.32	8.96
Portugal Esc	67.00	64.00
Spain Ptas	167.00	162.00
Sweden Kr	7.41	7.11
Switzerland Fr	4.51	4.09
US \$	1.76	1.71
Yugoslavia Dnr	32.00	30.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by the Bank of England. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Gold gained 15.30 to \$143.375 an ounce. SDR-4 was 1.17176 on Wednesday while SDR-4 was 0.681097. Commodities: Reuters' index was at 1526.4 (previous 1532.3).

On other pages

Business appointments

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Annual Statements: Fergusson Industrial

22 Preliminary Announcements: Bunterfield Harvey

Newman Industries Limited

International engineering marketing

	1976 £000's	1975 £000's
Group turnover	28,708	25,956
Pretax profit	1,714	1,983
Profit available to Ord shareholders	997	666
Earnings per share	14.3p	12.0p

Management targets for 1977: Group Sales of £45m and pretax profit of twice that in 1976. Performance indicates these targets should be attained.

Overseas business increased by one third in 1976. Agreement has been reached for substantial E.C.D. support during 1977 which will assist exports and reduce utilisation of bank facilities.

We are in a position to absorb further growth. Negotiations are under way to acquire an international engineering marketing and manufacturing group.

There appears to be reasonable hope for recovery in the U.K. economy based almost entirely on North Sea oil and gas. We, however, regard the overseas markets as being the prime areas for growth and profitability. The corporate structure envisaged at the end of this year should be ideally suited to the maximisation of overseas business. Any improvement in the U.K. economy should add to profits and strengthen our manufacturing base here.

US groups plan £350m oil refinery in South Wales

By Peter Hill

Plans by two American oil groups to spend about \$600m (£350m) on refining facilities in south Wales were announced last night.

Texaco and Giff Oil (Great Britain) said in a statement that they had reached conditional agreement on the construction of a jointly owned catalytic cracking plant and related facilities in the Pembroke-Milford Haven area of South Wales where both companies have refineries.

The planned new cracking facility, on which regional development assistance will be sought, should be completed by the end of 1979 subject to planning permission. The plant would have a capacity of 65,000 barrels of oil a day.

It would convert heavy fuel oil to premium gasoline and other products to conform to the changing pattern of petroleum consumption in Britain. This policy is in line with changes in refinery profiles being implemented by other companies with government support.

A number of companies are at various stages of constructing or planning new facilities to upgrade products in a move which is designed to switch the emphasis away from heavy fuel oil products.

The Texaco-Gulf venture is by far the most ambitious, but already Total and Petrofina have received a £9.5m grant towards their £71m catalytic cracking unit at Lindsey on Humberside, while Mobil has received a £10.3m grant towards the cost of a £100m cracking plant on the Thames estuary at Coryton.

The venture announced yesterday is understood to involve a 65 per cent participation by Texaco with the balance held by Giff. At present Gulf has a refinery in the area with a 95,000-barrel-a-day crude oil capacity, supplemented by a 10,000-barrel-a-day naphtha capacity. The Texaco refinery at Pembroke has a daily capacity of 140,000 barrels.

Tax concession plea by hotels chief

By Derek Harris

Problems are mounting for many provincial hotels despite the big foreign tourist boom resulting from a cheap pound and the attractions of Jubilee year.

Commercial traffic represented by businessmen's weekend travelling, the backbone of much provincial hotel trade, is reported to have been down as much as 40 per cent to 50 per cent in the first three months of this year in the North of England.

Commercial traffic has also been affected in the Midlands.

This emerged after yesterday's annual meeting of the British Hotels Restaurants and Caterers Association, at which Mr Maxwell Joseph, the association's chairman, who is chairman of Grand Metropolitan, gave a warning against complacency that present foreign tourist boom would continue.

London had been the main beneficiary from the foreign tourists expected to reach 11 million this year, but hotels and other catering establishments in resort and country areas had fared less well because of a decline in the domestic market, Mr Joseph said.

Mr Louis Slatcher, chairman of the northern division committee of the association, said afterwards that the foreign tourists were largely benefiting London and the traditional tourist "milk run" taking in Stratford-on-Avon and Edinburgh.

"Commercial traffic does seem to have been badly affected earlier this year but there are signs now of an improvement", he added.

Some areas have benefited from special situations. Newcastle upon Tyne, for instance, is getting an increased number of Scandinavian visitors, both shopping and touring.

Mr Joseph said that with the international tourist market so fiercely competitive, the British industry could not afford to slow its promotional momentum or allow standards to decline.

But it needed government support, particularly by the extending of industrial building allowances to hotels. Britain was now the only country in the EEC which did not grant such tax concessions to enable the hotel industry to plough back money in extensions, modernization and new equipment.

He added: "Inflation, restricted profits and high interest, and enormous general rate increases in seasonal and country areas, mean that many hotels are faced with the alternative of either properly maintaining their hotels or making a reasonable return on capital."

"This is a shocking state of affairs and must result in a decline in standards in future years."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Indexation and pay policy

From Mr K. Hale

Sir, I refer to Mr P. R. G. Layard's letter (July 6) advocating an incomes policy based on indexation against the retail price index.

This association, with the support of the recognized trade unions, has effectively practised a form of indexation in its pay determination at industry level for many years, except when it has been precluded by government incomes policies, and we believe that it has contributed to stability in earnings and also indirectly in industrial relations.

Wage indexation has a particular relevance to the "two-tier" system of bargaining where basic increases are negotiated at industry level, but where the essential task of measuring and rewarding performance have of necessity to be undertaken at the plant. The role of the national bargain in this context is to set a fair and equitable framework within which local bargaining can be effective. In our view, this includes identifying and dealing separately with speculative movements in the cost-of-living during the currency of local agreements.

Indexation systems can be designed to deal with varied situations and need not necessarily be of the "one for one" percentage type, which in certain conditions can be inflationary. They can be "geared" to provide greater or lesser protection according to levels of earnings, and the

Participation at work

From Mr George Goyder

Sir, There is a danger that if argument over what should follow the Bullock report is concentrated on what will satisfy the unions and the C.I. rather than on what will make it possible for labour to capital to work out together how they are to tap the vast resources of productivity, then the result will be a national output by a quarter.

Attitude depends upon belief. The limited liability company is thought by labour to exist for the benefit of capital. This is not surprising so long as the company can be said to be "owned" by shareholders. But a company not owned in the eyes of law it is a separate corporate entity. It is therefore not reasonable why the shareholders should enjoy exclusive rights in the appointment of directors and the allocation of profits.

To give the large company fresh sense of corporate purpose, all that is needed is to require that a general object clause be added to memorandum of association, which the several responsibilities of the directors towards its workers, shareholders, customers and the community are set out in such a way that all can see what the objectives of the enterprise are, and then provide that all the directors, however appointed, are joint and severally trustees for those objects.

At the annual general meeting the directors will report upon the company's discharge of its responsibilities to its constituents, and representatives of the workers concerned will be able to attend, hear the report of the company's social auditor, and comment and question the directors.

In order that the worker may be satisfied that the company is theirs and not someone else's there must be a transfer of equity in them by the company. This can best be done by the method adopted by Sir R. Roebuck over the past 5 years.

It consists of vesting shares bought in the open market on surplus profits in the company's employees jointly. It is a per cent of annual profits will buy roughly 1 per cent of the equity a year. In a successful company this can mean that within a decade become the company's principal shareholder while at the same time the ordinary shareholders have a floor under their share value. If thought necessary, unit trust could equalize the risks for employees in the company's common fund, another without affecting their voting rights in their own company.

These proposals—elaborated in "The Responsible Worker"—make genuine industrial democracy possible, for they offer the consumer a place in the sum as well as the producer. They make possible the growth of the public company as a social entity in which justice is seen to be done, and they smooth the way for whatever detailed form of participation the trade unions in agreement with the shop stewards and management of individual companies agree upon as being sensible and practicable.

By contrast the present argument about how many directors should represent labour is about as relevant as how many angels can stand on the end of a pin, for in both cases what is really needed is an object in common.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE GOYDER,
Pindar, Rotherfield Greys, Henley-on-Thames RG9 4PJ, July 8.

CCA debate

From Mr T. A. Griffin

Sir, Professor Edward Stamp (July 5) writes a forceful article from the academic point of view on the need for accounting standards. Of course, there is a serious rift in the profession and it is evident that the council of the institute has indeed lost contact with its members. The council tends to be dominated by large accounting firms with large clients, whereas the members are mainly concerned with the mass of smaller firms that make up the greater part of British business. It is not just "backwoodsmen" who feel that current cost accounting is neither applicable, informative or readily intelligible to these businesses.

Yours faithfully,
T. A. GRIFFIN,
22-24 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0QP, July 6.

Cost of the postal service

From Mr M. E. Corby

Sir, James Rothman's article (July 5) attributed the difference between British and continental mail rates mainly to the lower wage rates of Britain. The Mail Users' Association, and more recently, the American Commission of Postal Service, have prepared international comparisons to take this into account. The method is to work out the average cost of a unit of postage and then determine the time an employee has to work at average rates, to earn it. The results show that the British postal service is one of the most expensive in the world. It takes 3.5 minutes to earn a unit of postage in Britain compared with 1.1 minutes in Canada, 1.6 minutes in Belgium, 2.0 minutes in West Germany and 3.0 minutes in The Netherlands.

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Competition as a peg on prices

From Mr Alistair MacGeorge

Sir, May I congratulate you on today's (July 6) second leader which rejects an inflexible approach to price control. Our view, which we have already made clear to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, is that there should be more emphasis on a vigorous competition policy, than on overall price control.

As far as we are aware there is no evidence that overall price controls have a major restraining impact on inflation. Selective price controls can make a more positive contribution but this should be in curbing unfair pricing policies in monopolistic and near-monopolistic sectors.

We have suggested that this be achieved by a toughening of competition policy. There are

Index-linked state pensions

From Dr T. E. Waite

Sir, May I reply to Mr Furse's letter July 11, index-linked state pensions.

It is funny how in life it depends upon which side of the fence you are on, but I would like to remind Mr Furse that since 1948 we have had 6 per cent deducted from our gross salaries, and from 1971, 6.5 per cent and that the government, who employs us, have put 8 per cent each year. That means a minimum of 14 per cent of the gross salary per annum is paid into a pension fund, and furthermore, can I remind Mr Furse that the salaries in the public sector were way below that of the private sector until a few years ago when the salaries were brought in better line with the private sector.

There are many other points that one could raise, there is always two sides to a coin. Yours,
T. E. WAITE,
Robin Hill, Church Walk, Blinton, Rugby, CV22 7NA.

Germany's postwar industrial 'advantage'

From Mr Maurice Nadin

Sir, Mr Terry Burns, writing on exchange rate policy (July 11) states "Germany has pursued the strategy (of price stability) and withstood the loss of price advantage but the starting position was one of great industrial strength". This, in my view, is a denial of the truth. Germany's industry and much else was wrecked by the war, and Britain started off with very considerable advantages. In support of this, I quote from your industrial correspondent writing in *The Times* of January 8, 1954, in an article entitled "How German output has doubled", he gave the following table:

INVESTMENT IN FIXED ASSETS

From Mr T. A. Griffin.
Sir,—Professor Edward Stamp
(July 5) writes a forceful
article from the academic's
point of view on the need for
accounting standards. Of course,
there is a serious rift in the
profession and it is evident that

*For West Germany the 1948 figures were for the second half year only, and the 1953 figures for the first half-year only. There were no United Kingdom figures for 1953 available.

Thus it will be seen that in 1951 West Germany invested more in fixed assets than Britain and this has continued ever since. I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
MAURICE NADIN,
Blackhouse, Thorpe, Egham, Surrey, July 12.

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Sir, James Rothman's article (July 5) attributed the difference between British and continental mail rates mainly to the lower wage rates of Britain. The Mail Users' Association, and more recently, the American Commission of Postal Service, have prepared international comparisons to take this into account. The method is to work out the average cost of a unit of postage and then determine the time an employee has to work at average rates, to earn it. The results show that the British postal service is one of the most expensive in the world. It takes 3.5 minutes to earn a unit of postage in Britain compared with 1.1 minutes in Canada, 1.6 minutes in Belgium, 2.0 minutes in West Germany and 3.0 minutes in The Netherlands.

Although the British postal service works to higher standards than its counterparts, and unlike most of them is required to be self-financing, these facts seem insufficient to account for the large difference in real costs to users. Perhaps the Carter committee will enlighten us in its report which is due later this month. Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL E. CORBY,
Mail Users' Association Ltd, 29 Sackville Street, Piccadilly, London, W1X 1DB.

Steel plant sit-in continues

By Our Industrial Correspondent

About one third of the workers employed at the British Steel Corporation's plant at East Greenwich are continuing their sit-in at the plant, which was formally shut down last week.

The workers at the Reinforcement Steel Services plant, which forms part of the corporation's British Steel Service Centres operation, were told in January that the works was to be closed down. The recession in the construction industry has led to a steep fall in the demand for the type of steel handled at Greenwich. Between 80-90 workers were employed at the plant, and the closure notice resulted in protests about the general run down in industrial activity in the Greenwich area.

The BSC said yesterday that about 35 workers were continuing with their sit-in at the works. A number of other closures are being implemented by the BSC.

Closure of the BSC's Redpath Dorman Long Redcar works is scheduled to take place at the end of this month, while discussions with unions are still taking place over the planned shutting down of other DRL manufacturing works at Glasgow, Stoke on Trent and Greenwich, which together employ nearly 600 workers.

Talks are also taking place between union officials and BSC management over plans to close down the spiral weld pipe mill plant at Llanwern

SMMT appeal to Japan

By Our Industrial Correspondent

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders to cut back the number of trucks and vans they export to Britain.

Seven per cent of this market belongs to Japan, and the society has written to the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association suggesting voluntary restraint. The move was made with the knowledge of Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade.

Imports of trucks and vans rose by 2 per cent in the first half of this year, according to figures issued yesterday by the SMMT. While these imports account for only 15 per cent of the home market compared with more than 40 per cent

for cars, the society decided to act.

Japanese manufacturers have already accepted a voluntary restriction on their car sales in Britain.

New commercial vehicle registrations so far this year have risen to 114,021, up by 4.3 per cent.

In June Ford led the big truck and articulated vehicle category with 1,311 sales, compared with 1,228 from British Leyland, 1,066 from Bedford, and 390 from Chrysler.

The middle range was also dominated by Ford, which accounted for 43.1 per cent of the market with 2,571 sales. But Leyland led the car-derived van and pickup market with 1,708 sales (31.8 per cent).

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Record French jobs

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Unemployment in France rose to a post-war record high of 1,150,600 seasonally adjusted in June from 1,096,700 in May, the labour ministry said. Unadjusted unemployment fell to 967,100 from 976,100 in May, while in June last year unemployment was 996,700 adjusted and 813,000 unadjusted.

Working took over the two plants after talks on a bonus scheme had broken down. New proposals were worked out, but it is not clear whether shop stewards will be making a recommendation for a settlement at today's meetings.

Chloride strikers vote today on peace plan

The 4,500 workers who, for two months, have been staging strikes at two factories in Manchester and Dagenham belonging to Chloride, the international battery manufacturing group, will be holding meetings today to vote on proposals that could lead to a settlement of their dispute.

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Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Limited



Results 1977

Preliminary announcement

The audited results for the 52 weeks ended May 1, 1977 were as follows:

	52 weeks ended May 1, 1977	53 weeks ended May 2, 1978
	£000	£000
Turnover	345,897	309,797
Operating profit	33,732	31,211
Associated companies	2,205	1,772
Financial income	3,586	2,707
Financial expenses	(4,410)	(4,752)
Profit before taxation	35,113	30,938
Taxation	17,646	16,127
Earnings after taxation	17,467	14,811
Preference dividend	530	530
Earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders	16,937	14,281
Extraordinary item	—	1,919
Ordinary dividends	8,307	7,552
Retained	8,630	4,810
Earnings per share	6.22p	5.61p

The annual general meeting will be held in Edinburgh on August 18, 1977 at noon.

The annual report and accounts will be posted on July 25, 1977. Additional copies can be obtained from Mr F. D. Patterson, Company Secretary, Scottish & Newcastle Breweries Limited, Abbey Brewery, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh.

مكتبة الأصيل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Building societies and a wage explosion

in Scotland is not helping all that much with the lower margins on longer there.

Superimposed on those structural weaknesses is S & N's apparently unhappy knack of getting involved with costly diversifications. The Del Monte frozen food venture has cost another £221,000 while the £5m St Cyprien golf project cut pre-tax profits last year by nearly £1m against £400,000 the previous year and clearly if things continue as badly as that for another year S & N will pull out.

As it is S & N is now talking about a heavy £40m capital spending programme to improve production, distribution and packaging which the solid balance sheet can handle with little trouble but this is unlikely to bring any short-term respite to the trading performance.

A yield of 9 per cent at 52 1/2 along with a p/e ratio of 8; which may not change all that much in the current year mirror the doubts about the shares which have markedly underperformed everything in sight over the last year.

McAuchie, Scottish & Newcastle is particularly excited about its 10 per cent stake in the Taitton cedar consortium, and given yesterday's figures from Bulmer, the only cedar independent, it is easy to see why. Bulmer's 1976-77 profit, which of course takes in last year's summer, is 50 per cent higher at £3.9m which masks a 13 per cent volume gain from cedar and an increase of some two points to 63 per cent in market share. All this despite a warning from the union of duty on cedar, which suggests that the cedar business really is seeing real growth most probably at the expense of wine.

But the 12p rise to 177p in Bulmer's shares yesterday had more to do with a capital restructuring scheme which will give shareholders eight ordinary shares and one 91 per cent £1 preference share in a new Holding company for every eight shares now held. This allows Bulmer through the dividend net since Holdings will be a newly listed company, and the idea is to pay 10p a share gross for 1977-78, a 104 per cent increase in income.

It also allows them the chance of a capital sum since arrangements will apparently be made to place the preference stock of which £1.3m will be issued. This is, of course, particularly attractive to the family holders, accounting for some 60 per cent of Bulmer's equity, and they have apparently indicated they will sell their preference stock.

Other shareholders may feel that a scheme which seems designed to release capital for dominant family shareholders while at the same time ensuring that they retain control of the company is not what they invested in Bulmer for on the longer view.

But they must at the same time agree that Bulmer's represents an enlightened form of family-controlled company; that it is professionally managed and that something is being done about the current yield of only 2 1/2 per cent along with an equal chance to sell their preference entitlement.

Hawker/Gardner

Rolls-Royce keeps its options open

Now that the terms of Hawker Siddeley's bid for diesel engine manufacturer L. Gardner are known, it looks far from a cut and dried affair, although Rolls-Royce Motors' entry into the market after the lifting of the suspension yesterday may be an attempt to squeeze a higher price rather than a prelude to a competitive offer, a counter bid.

The surprise is the 5-month profit figures from L. Gardner, which at £1.8m, are better than the whole of last year. On Hawker's cash offer of 340p, this suggests an exit p/e ratio of only seven, which is a low multiple on which to try a speculative bid for a company in a well-appreciated growth sector.

Whether Rolls-Royce Motors, with around 17 per cent of Gardner, can seriously bid, however, is doubtful. At £14.7m—the value of the Hawker offer—Gardner is more expensive than Podens, which it has just failed to get. R.R.M. certainly could not bid with cash and there is a limit to what its shares would stand.

A simple solution to the inflation accounting problem

Geoffrey Wilson suggests how immediate steps could be taken to adjust for inflation while the difficulties of introducing current cost accounting are resolved

With the passing last week of the resolution by the Institute of Chartered Accountants against the compulsory introduction of current cost accounting, the most conspicuous characteristic of either the inflation accounting debate, or the need to recognize the impact of inflation in accounts, is widely recognized but a consensus on methods and implementation is still absent.

In the past few days the Government has reaffirmed its support for the early introduction of CCA and the Institute for an acceptable system of accounting in the face of criticism which may be more significant than mere choice of words.

Where, then, would industry—about whose accounting methods so much advice from outside industry is given—like to go from here? There again there is no consensus except on the need for greater simplicity and slower change.

Some—including many larger companies—fully recognize the importance of collecting inflation data in accounts and argue for modifications to the Morris proposals and time-table to achieve an effective system with a more gradual introduction. Others believe that historic cost accounts, for all their defects, are good enough to run the business, even during high inflation, and that if that inflation can be brought under control the need for change will lessen. There is no pressure for inflation accounting in Germany.

What is clear is that more study and more time are needed and this has been recognized both by the Inflation Accounting Steering Group and the Accounting Standards Committee. The comments on ED18—a greater volume than any previous exposure draft—are still being digested and the resulting changes to the proposals will take time to develop.

The need for simplicity is recognized, but it is easier to add words than to take them away. The need for a more gradual introduction is also recognized, so that the day when companies will be using CCA has now receded.

Indeed, some would say that last week's resolution, by objecting to its compulsory adoption, has postponed that day indefinitely—unless the Government steps in where the accounting profession has failed.

Chance to show leadership

But good can still come from confusion. There is still an opportunity for the accounting profession to show leadership and increase its stature in the eyes of industry. Delay is not always harmful. Change is not always beneficial.

The submissions on ED18 are of high quality and deserve the fullest consideration—it is sometimes forgotten amid all the criticism of the exposure draft that the purpose of exposing was to turn over three times a year the inflation accounting debate to the experts on the subject from many different countries are meeting in London this week for a conference on that subject.

But international harmonization needs time. So it is right that the Inflation Accounting Steering Group should continue with the task it has been set and should work steadily

towards the achievement of an acceptable and practical method of current cost accounting.

In the meantime we have to sit back and accept the defects of historic accounting while inflation continues to rise at high levels. Or is there a simpler way of adjusting for inflation in those historic accounts which could be used for the time being at least by manufacturing industry—the sector where the dangers of profit distortion in a period of inflation are greatest?

Fortunately, there is such a solution which has been recognized by a number of observers for some time past as a possible fall-back position should the complexities and increased subjectivity of CCA prove unacceptable in this stage of its development. This is the simpler method of achieving the two basic adjustments which are at the heart of CCA—the adjustment to depreciation to reflect replacement costs and the adjustment to stock values to eliminate fortuitous stock profits.

Taking depreciation first: the accounting profession itself suggested the simpler solution as long ago as 1949 when it first urged companies to set aside increased depreciation during inflationary conditions. But with a few exceptions, such as GKN, the recommendation was ignored, and apart from some further encouragement in 1952, the profession has done little to enforce this sensible proposal.

The adjustment can be done in different ways—either as an appropriation of profits to reserves or by indexing the depreciation charge: it may require a reassessment of asset values to ensure a fair result since many companies have written plant off over a period shorter than its true life as a rough and ready way of compensating for inflation. But a simple factor applied to depreciation would suffice in most cases.

The simpler solution for stock needs an explanation first of accounting jargon in the area of stock valuation—a large reinvestment of the initial beliefs by commentators on weapon systems. There are two conventional methods of valuing stock known as accounts FIFO and LIFO, the initials standing respectively for first-in-first-out and last-in-first-out (some accountants confronted by excessive stocks have facetiously suggested that there is a third method—FISH—standing for first-in-spill-her).

To illustrate the two methods we can take a simple example of a stock bin containing 100 widgets which are used and replenished at the rate of 25 per month so that the stock is turned over three times a year. Under the FIFO method the widget drawn from the bin for use in production on July 1 is taken to be the oldest one in stock which was put in the bin on March 1.

So if the price of widgets has risen during the four-month period this boosts the value of

those remaining in the bin but not the one used in production, so giving rise to the phenomenon of stock appreciation or overstatement of historic profits through inflation in stock values which was at the root of the pressure for the introduction of inflation accounting.

Under LIFO, on the other hand, the widget used in production on July 1 is taken to be the youngest one which may have been only recently delivered. Thus LIFO gives a result quite close to replacement cost under CCA, though it does result in a progressive undervaluation of the remaining widgets in the bin and so it can distort balance sheet values.

In the United Kingdom FIFO has been the traditional method of stock valuation and LIFO has been frowned on—particularly by the Inland Revenue, which before the introduction of stock relief would naturally have been worried by the loss of tax revenue inherent in a system which eliminated stock appreciation. The accounting profession, too, has frowned on LIFO and has qualified the audit reports of some major British companies which have used the method for American subsidiaries where a different attitude to LIFO prevails.

In the United States, however, LIFO is widely used and is accepted by the revenue authorities. Indeed, Sandilands recognized that it was the best-known method of eliminating stock appreciation.

International method

LIFO does not fit all situations, for example where stock turnover is slow. Also a balance sheet adjustment may be necessary to achieve realistic asset values. But it is strange that throughout the debate on inflation accounting during the past 25 years almost no research has been carried out by the accounting profession in this country into the most widely used international method of eliminating the impact of inflation on stock.

If we are searching for a simple way of making this adjustment for manufacturing industry we need look no farther. It is a solution which is no more complex or subjective than FIFO, and could meet the needs of small companies as well as large.

Because it does not result in increased subjectivity the Inland Revenue should be prepared to recognize it and to allow companies using LIFO to adopt this also in their tax computations—as it already does the practice in the United States and in South Africa. For other companies stock relief (modified if necessary to achieve a fair balance) would continue.

So the way ahead is to continue with the long-term development of CCA, fostering this perhaps with encouragement to listed companies to publish supplementary CCA accounts, and to study urgently a simpler solution which could be introduced without delay as a modification to the historic accounting standards on depreciation and stock valuations to overcome some of the defects of the existing system. Increased depreciation and LIFO appear to offer such a solution for much of manufacturing industry.

The author is a member of the Inflation Accounting Steering Group under Douglas Morris and of the Accounting Standards Committee. He is joint managing director of Delta Metal.

Can cash limits take the strain?

The Government's attitude to public sector pay over the next 12 months hovers uneasily between seeing it as an area where it can exert positive force to hold down the general level of settlements for all workers and the negative fear that it could be public employees who start the next pay scramble.

One advantage that the Government has is that because public sector pay went up so much in 1974 and 1975 public employees went into the present round of pay restraint better off compared with their private sector counterparts than at any time since the war. A study of manual workers' earnings by Andrew Dean of the National Institute of Economic and Social Research in November, 1975, showed that the trend of the private sector wages compared with those of public employees had been downwards throughout the 1970s.

In the first few months of 1975 that process accelerated, with major settlements in the public sector averaging 4.1 per cent, compared with 30.3 per cent in the private sector.

There was some catching-up in the period immediately before the 66 policy came into effect in August, 1975, and wage drift has helped the private sector a little since then. Nonetheless, the best available evidence suggests that public sector workers as a whole have emerged from the pay policy with most of the gains which they made intact.

The point is reinforced by the fact that in many cases the public sector is more favourable for the individual worker. Annual increments were exempted from the 66 limit and, in modified form, from phase two. This does not affect the average earnings of public sector employees, but it does mean that individuals were experiencing increases in gross pay

greater than the nominal limit. This benefit will be reinforced next April, when the new pensions scheme comes into effect. Because public sector employees are almost all covered by acceptable schemes, they will be contracted out of the new state system. This is estimated to be worth about 2 per cent of gross earnings more in take home pay.

Almost all estimated nine million workers who will not be covered in this way belong to the private sector. So much for the forces helping the Government. What about those hindering its chances? The most obvious is that among public employees are some highly visible groups who will insist on being treated as a special case. Two typical groups are the miners and the police.

In the case of the police, of course, other unions may be hard to convince they are a special case. The other problem for the Government is the extreme rigidity of its pay policy, which is assumed by the existing cash limits. It does not merely expect settlements to be restricted to 5 per cent, but the total wage bill increase to be kept to that level.

For the economy as a whole, a 5 per cent limit of settlements has generally been assumed to imply a 10 per cent increase in average earnings overall. So what the cash limits would mean, if average settlements were restricted to 5 per cent, but the total wage bill increase to be kept to that level.

Since most estimates of private sector increases are in any case several percentage points above the 10 per cent level, the government would like, it is hard to see how it can realistically expect to carry through the existing assumptions into a rigid policy.

David Blake

As the Government's hopes of reaching an agreement on wage restraint with the unions have receded in recent weeks, more and more emphasis has been laid on cash limits as a way of holding down inflation. The fact that officials are busy preparing more detailed rules for the application of cash limits where these may be threatened by a breakdown of general pay restraint and a consequent acceleration of inflation.

Whereas the success so far of the cash limit control on public spending has been fairly plain, it is not so easy to imagine their smooth operation in the absence of a widely accepted incomes policy. Pay accounts for about half of the total spending which is subject to cash limits, which in turn cover, directly or indirectly, roughly two thirds of public expenditure.

Ministers have recently reaffirmed their commitment to stick to the already agreed cash totals for spending this year. The Chancellor has said in the House of Commons that they form an important part of the defence against inflation. But it is at least questionable whether they are either a sensible or a workable means of controlling inflation.

The introduction of cash limits was largely a reaction to accusations that public spending was out of control, or, indeed, uncontrollable. They were included in the anti-inflationary weaponry, but their true function is to control public spending, and its share in g.p., and not inflation.

The translation of planned

volumes of public spending into plain, straightforward cash terms obviously makes it easier to control.

Last year, inflation was faster than expected at the time when the 1976-77 cash limits were drawn up. We still do not have the figures for actual spending in that year, but it is well known that far from being exceeded the cash limits were undershot in many cases.

This was probably due to the caution of those, especially in the local authorities, using the system for the first time. It may make further volume cuts in spending, as a result of faster than expected inflation, harder to implement this year.

By putting a great deal of weight on cash limits as a means of countering inflation, the Government is assuming either that the discipline of cash limits will be sufficient to persuade both suppliers and unions to moderate their demands for price and pay increases and so will control inflation directly; or that an unplanned fall in the volume of public spending—which is what is implied by adherence to cash limits—will of itself be helpful in the inflation battle.

One thing in the Government's favour is the pattern of public sector pay settlements. If the 12-month rule is held, large increases in the next pay round will not have to be paid for until well into this financial year.

Carolyn Atkinson

Business Diary: Whither AIB? • Hoteliers' £25,000 bill

CCA deficit

Union of Independent Taxpayers is off and running. The union, which was formed last year, has a membership of 7,000 and is planning to launch a campaign to force the government to reduce the tax on the profits of independent businesses. The union's first meeting was held last week and it was announced that it would be holding a series of meetings throughout the year to discuss the tax on independent businesses. The union's first meeting was held last week and it was announced that it would be holding a series of meetings throughout the year to discuss the tax on independent businesses.

There was a curious yet good-humoured disagreement over a bill at the annual meeting of the British Hotels Restaurant and Catering Association at the Portman Hotel, London yesterday. Members were told that at the end of last year the association was "technically bankrupt" and had a deficit of £25,000. But the successful call by Maxwell Joseph, chairman of the association, and Grand Metropolitan, to increase subscriptions by about half did not draw forth unanimous support. A lone dissenter was Graham Lewis, chief executive of the hotel and industrial catering division of Grand Met. He argued that the increase could reduce membership and, therefore, revenue.

Members of the association yesterday bent back the ears of some 30 MPs on everything from the need for more government support to the problem of prostitution soliciting in West End hotels. The association is also funding about the progressive reduction by government of work permits for foreigners—cut from 6,000 to 2,500 this year. It argues that the Government has submitted to pressure from the

TUC, which "fails to understand the structure and requirements of the industry." But there were a high level of support for the association's proposals. The association cannot expect the quota to be raised? Not so, says secretary John Hooper. British rarely have the necessary skills and were unwilling to move to London or the more remote areas where staff was required. The industry had an international flavour which required regular infusions of overseas talent.

Hooper explained that the industry was trying to attract school-leavers, but admitted that it still had a bad image, built round a reputation for low wages. "We are bedevilled by conditions at the lower end of the industry," he said. For 10 years or so, in his home in Shrewsbury, and his office at Brighton, account Douglas Thompson has laboured mightily to ease the bookkeeping problems of the small businessman. Yesterday his child—an "alphabetic" system called CARL (Code Analysis Recording by Letters) Accounting—was formally introduced to the public in the sombre surroundings of London's Connaught Rooms.

Thompson, now 40, first became aware of the bookkeeping headaches of plumbers, rodbackers and other small businessmen when he lectured in accountancy and taxation at Wednesday College. In the late sixties he gave up teaching to concentrate full-time on his accountancy practice at Brighton, where he rapidly became all too aware of the little man's propensity to send

anally the most successful firm. Crane started with SRC as a lab assistant 40 years ago. He was here on his way home from a whistle-stop visit to Zurich and Geneva, where he has been trying to convince European investors that the fact that Penn Central went heavily broke did not mean that the whole of the industry was going off the rails.

He said yesterday that the railways' falling share of intercity freight had stabilized and that the Interstate Commerce Commission was now making quicker and more favourable decisions on requests for rate increases.

In Brock Adams, President Carter's Secretary for Transportation, the industry could now look to a man with "first-hand experience in dealing with railroad issues". As a Congressman, Adams piloted through last year's Railroad Revitalization Reform Act, which will make it easier for the railways to compete with the unregulated lorry drivers who can vary freight rates at will. It also extends to the railways some of the government financial aid open to the other big rival, the inland waterways.

The railways are also looking forward to heavier traffic under the Carter energy policy. This calls for an increase of more than 60 per cent in domestic coal consumption by 1985.

A brighter outlook for the railways—American railways, that is—was described by Stanley Crane in London yesterday. He is president of Southern Railway Company, a freight carrier which has headquarters in Washington and serves the south-east. It claims to be financially sound.

Obfuscation corner: Associated Leisure, the country's biggest distributor of fruit machines, is now trying to get away from the unenviable bad name by referring to its products as "amusement with prizes".

BUTTERFIELD-HARVEY

	1976/77	1975/76
Sales	£40.7m	£39.0m
Trading surplus	£2,132,000	£2,208,000
Profit before tax	£1,752,000	£1,776,000
Earnings per share	5.8p	5.9p
Dividends per share	2.1p	1.9p

"... with the elimination of losses at Greenwich and clear evidence of improved results elsewhere in the Group, I am confident that a substantial advance in profits will be achieved in the forthcoming year."

I believe the foundations are now firmly established to enable the Group to emerge in 1977/78 financially stronger than at any time in the past, and that the future prospects of your Company are exceptionally good."

S. A. Roberts, C.B.E.
Chairman

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available from the 28th July 1977 from the Secretary.

BUTTERFIELD-HARVEY LIMITED
Villiers House, 41-47 Strand, London WC2N 5JJ.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Canadian Overseas in with counter-bid for Dolan Pkg

Canadian Overseas Packaging Industries has finally laid its cards on the table with a last minute counter-bid for Dolan Packaging.

The offer came only hours after Mr Roy Hartley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, had decided not to refer the merger between Dolan and a Swedish firm, ASSI Group, to the monopolies commission.

The COPI offer of 180p per share in cash values the company at just over £16m, and comfortably tops the Swedish bid price of 160p. Dolan shares were suspended at 164p yesterday.

day pending the bid announcement.

The Swedish group owns just under 20 per cent of the company and claim "irrevocable" acceptances amounting to a further 31 per cent. However, Hambros Bank announced last night that in the light of the decision not to refer the merger between Dolan and a Swedish firm, ASSI Group, to the monopolies commission.

The COPI offer of 180p per share in cash values the company at just over £16m, and comfortably tops the Swedish bid price of 160p. Dolan shares were suspended at 164p yesterday.



Interim Report

Trading results (unaudited) for the six months ended 31st March, 1977

	1977	1976	Year
Six Months	£000	£000	£000
Group turnover	20,300	21,542	46,067
Group profit before tax	300	275	916
Group profit after tax	144	132	373
Dividend	57	52	125

The interim dividend represents the net sum of 0.81p per share (1976: interim 0.74p; total 1.78p)

Extracts from Chairman's statement:

- * During the first six months trading has been maintained at an encouraging level and shows a Group profit before tax of £300,000.
- * Mears Construction Ltd. has maintained an acceptable level of profitability despite the difficulties of the construction industry. The award of substantial contracts in the last few months ensures a useful level of continuity over the next two years.
- * A. Long & Co. Ltd. has maintained its significant contribution to Group profits in the first half. Activities continue at a satisfactory level.
- * Increased business overseas, particularly in the Middle East, is being pursued vigorously. In respect of construction, a number of joint venture operations have been established which should show positive results within a short time. A. Long International continues to make good progress with its plant and equipment activities from its base in Bahrain.

Mears Bros. Holdings Limited

MARLING INDUSTRIES LTD.

PRELIMINARY RESULTS YEAR TO MARCH 31ST, 1977

	1977	1976
£000's	£000's	£000's
Sales	11,465	9,380
Exports from UK	1,874	808
Net pre-tax profit	476	538
Dividend per share	1.0188p	0.9244p

In accordance with my statements to you last year our policy of widening the Company's range of products has continued successfully.

Sales have expanded from £8.4 million in 1975 to current rate of £14 million per annum with the main growth in recent months.

Growth of profits did not follow due to the cost of setting up the new production lines but management accounts show that the benefit from these investments is now flowing in. A Bonus issue of one new share for every eight held is proposed.

13th July, 1977.

Stock markets

LASMO takes the limelight

Take out the dealings in London & Scottish Marine Oil and it is easy to see that Stock Exchange turnover remains exceptionally low. The only exception is LASMO, which has taken the limelight.

Two contrasting factors are still at work. On the one side, potential buyers have every right to fear the apparent total collapse of negotiated pay policy but this can be countered by the belief that the economy can, at last, stand some so to speak demands.

The money supply statistics and trade figures due out today are expected to be good. Gilt-edged securities have been in the higher coupons.

Many leading equities were barely changed but the FT index added 3.5 to 449.9 and Unilever climbed 6p to 488p while Glaxo were wanted at 545p, up 3p.

The palate is almost certainly jaded with Grendon Trust, but there may be some life in the 11 per cent loan stock 1981, currently quoted at about 540m.

If chairman Mr David Daines achieves his ambition and gets a requote on the back of Monotype, dividends must be preceded by the redemption of this stock where interest and dividends due have been rolled up.

The introduction offered few opportunities for the stage. In fact the opening premium of 9p at 163p was distinct disappointment to speculators although the experts had not expected anything over 10p. The shares later climbed to 170p and the institutions which make the market are likely to make in again on any weakness.

The production stock advanced 5p to 325p.

Elsewhere on the oil pitch,

British Petroleum lost 4p to 918p and the partly paid shares slipped 7p to 308p. Tricentrol, however, advanced 2p to 180p.

Oil Exploration made further progress of 2p to 206p on Thelma field hopes while Siebens were also in demand. The market is expecting a holding statement from the group on the well result on block 16/7 in the Bras Field. The outlook is expected to be good and the shares surged 12p to 162p.

Expectations of another 1p on the price of a pint lifted brewery stocks. Bass Clarified edged 1p up to 118p. Allied Breweries rose 2p to 72p while Scottish & Newcastle, reporting yesterday, pleased most observers and the shares gained 2p to 521p. The cider firm of H. P. Bulmer took the honours in the drinks sector with a 12p rise to 177p on the prospects of restructuring the equity capital.

L. Gardner was the day's star feature with a 130p jump over Tuesday's suspension price of 230p. This is now 20p over Baker Siddley's terms and Rolls-Royce, down 1p at 69p, were reported to be in the market for Gardner shares, albeit in a very small way.

Decca "A" came into strong buying with a 13p jump to 322p on revived bid rumors. The bid, of course, could come from almost anywhere among the front line electrical companies.

but one of the prime candidates, GEC, climbed 6p to 206p.

Vesper Thameycroft enjoyed a 6p rise to 115p while Reynolds Parsons and Clarke Chapman were favoured on hopes of any early settlement of merger terms. Reynolds added 8p to 176p, despite any market fears that the group's shareholders will come out badly in any get-together, while Clarke Chapman put on 3p to 761p.

Faircity, however, suffered a 7p drop to 73p. The shares had been bought up to 85p ahead of the forthcoming results but the combination of recent plans to raise higher borrowing powers to support the new Middle East contract and the sale of 300,000 shares yesterday caused some dealers to put two and two together and, unfortunately, they came up with five. The shares were eventually placed outside the market—probably through ARIEL.

The bid front was as active as ever. The industrial fasteners and brick manufacturers, Colson Group, climbed 8p to 60p after the announcement of a formal bid approach while Dolan Packaging were suspended at 164p, unchanged on the day, after a bid from Canadian Overseas Packaging Industries worth 180p in cash.

Negretti & Zambra, however, lost 6p to 63p on a firm bid denial and Tuesday night's

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	per share	pence	1/10	total
Aberdeen (F)*	113.1(108.8)	11.44(12.72)	59.8(57.5)	19(19)	—	29(29)
Assoc. Lises (F)	16.6 (13.3)	2.2(1.8)	4.14(3.42)	1.49(1.34)	—	2.59(2.34)
Birmid Q. (I)	103.3(91.5)	6.33(6.23)	—	1.35(1.22)	7/9	—(4.58)
Bullington (I)	14.31(12.14)	1.43(0.63)	—	1.21(1.14)	—	—(5.01)
H. P. Bulmer (F)	33.91(26.31)	3.35(2.39)	17.42(10.91)	1.05(1.03)	12/9	3.17(2.68)
Butterfield (F)	40.69(39.04)	1.75(1.77)	5.8(5.9)	1.1(1.03)	1/9	2.1(1.9)
Christie-T. (F)	40.15(32.17)	2.55(3.18)	14.2(15.5)	2.63(2.314)	—	4.23(3.84)
Fodens (F)	47.15(28.61)	1.73(1.02)*	12.9(16.7)*	2.43(0.65)	31/8	2.43(0.65)
Gestetor (I)	21.36(105.1)	75.13(7.53)	12.9(10.65)	1.07(1.32)	15/9	1.43(1.5)
Bampton Gold (F)	—	0.73(0.36)	—	1.43(1.5)	—	—
Bampton Trst (F)	0.27(0.31)	0.09(0.03)*	—	—	—	—
Jacksons BE (F)	4.5(3.4)	0.02(0.04)	—	—	—	—
Marling Inds (F)	11.5(9.4)	0.26(3.26)	59(44.7)	1.1(0.81)	6/10	1.55(1.29)
Mears Bros (I)	20.3(21.5)	0.31(0.27)	2.06(1.88)	0.81(0.74)	12/8	—
Polymark (F)	9.9(7.2)	0.74(0.67)	1.22(0.80)	1.22(0.80)	1/11	2.44(0.65)
S. N. Brews (F)	34.99(309.79)	9.92(0.53)	1.85(1.77)	1.85(1.77)	23/8	3.05(2.77)
Sheldale Ref (F)	10.2	0.10(0.7)	2.9(12.6)	0.07(3.2)	—	—
Wrighton (F)	8.3(7.5)	0.34(0.37)	2.13(4.18)	1.08(1.08)	—	1.08(1.08)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * Figures are in South African Rands and cents. † Low. ‡ Adjusted for scrip.

Butterfield-Harvey

Hard bargaining now starts

After the acrimony of the abortive Herbert Morris takeover, Babcock & Wilcox's financial advisers are having sedate and apparently reasonable discussions with their counterparts acting for Butterfield-Harvey, on which Babcock has now set its sights.

The talks so far have been low key since it was only yesterday that Butterfield's results for the year to April 2 were published. Now the hard bargaining can start and while Babcock would clearly like an agreed bid, it will not be forced into making any outrageous offer. As one observer put it, Babcock has never been exactly over-generous.

For the year, there was a slight pre-tax profit dip from £1.776m to £1.752m, which had been anticipated at the half year. But with a bid, agreed or otherwise, hanging over them, the directors manfully owned up to losses of £1m principally incurred on the office furniture and fabrication.

But then, again, the point was made "decisive action" has

been taken and that there are indications that the Greenwich division is now trading profitably. The statement concluded that the directors are confident that the company will advance in profits "will take place this year, which some might read as fighting talk."

The shares rose 2p to 63p yesterday to capitalize the group at £9m which is small beer for Babcock. Nevertheless, there has been some surprise that Babcock should be interested in a small group which takes in such unlikely combinations as leisure goods, office furniture, hydraulic components and municipal vehicles.

It is in fact the municipal vehicles, such as dustcarts, which are manufactured by Shelvock & Drewry, which particularly interest Babcock since they are complementary to some of Babcock's products.

This side of Butterfield's business did well last year and the group reports that as a result of an export order gained in the last quarter, production has been increased.

The hydraulics side is also of interest to Babcock, with Western Hydraulics having a good name in the trade. But it is not too easy to see what Babcock's interest can be in office furniture, marine equipment factoring and distributing Mercury outboard engines.

The office furniture side took a heavy beating when the Department of the Environment suddenly cut back on its ordering leaving a lot of surplus capacity with nothing to do.

Butterfield has lived with the prospect of being taken over for some time, since Babcock's 20 per cent stake is much travelled. The William Baird Group sold the holding to Sime Darby (London), a subsidiary of Sime Darby Holdings, last December for 40p a share. Sime passed the shares on to Babcock last week, making a 5p a share turn on the exercise, a move which immediately pushed the market price from 41p to 5p.

Desmond Quigley

Birmid hit by strikes at Leyland and Massey

By Richard Allen

Events continued to conspire against Birmid Quacast in 26 weeks to April 30. As result pre-tax profits rose to £6.24m in the previous complete period.

The group, which has changed its year-end to October said earlier this year that it was in a strong position to account of any upturn in tra after rationalization moves several areas.

However, the foundries division which supplied four-fifths of profits in the previous 12 weeks accounting period has been hit by the strikes. British Leyland and Massey Ferguson, Mr. Z. Ince, chairman, says that as a result profits have been reduced though he does not say by how much, and no directors of the group were available for comment yesterday.

In his statement, Mr. Ince also reports that profitability has improved in the worst and engineering products division, where the irrigation products group continues to enjoy increased sales.

But hopes of a significant lift-off in lawnmower sales, which suffered as a result of last year's drought, have apparently been dashed. Mr. Ince says that the selling season has got off to a poor start as a result of weather conditions and lower consumer spending.

Demand for heating products has remained predictably flat. Group profits have also been affected by charging "some" non-recurring rationalization costs in the foundries and wrought engineering divisions. Group turnover increased 15 per cent to £103.3m.

In the previous 15-month period the group made pre-tax profits of £14.6m.

Despite disappointment over the results the shares climbed 3p to 62p yesterday, helped no doubt by the news that the interim dividend was to be increased by the maximum to 2.08p gross. Given a similar increase at the year-end, the prospective yield is still close to 11 per cent.

Assoc Leisure to buy into hotel business

By Alison Mitchell

Associated Leisure, Britain's largest distributor of amusement machines, is to expand into the hotel business.

With £2.8m in cash and short-term deposits and an abortive bid in its recent past, the group has been looking for some time for a suitable outlet in this field. And Mr Nathaniel Solomon, managing director, disclosed yesterday that Associated had reached "agreement in principle" with a private company. If finalized the purchase will use up "part" of the cash.

Earlier this year the group withdrew its 25p a share agreement for Manchester-based hotels and restaurants company Stanneylands after Greenall Whitely moved in with an increased bid price of 33p. However, the deal left Associated with a profit of £70,000 on the written-down value of its 25 per cent stake in Stanneylands.

Although the proposed takeover is likely to cost Associated only about a third of its short-term funds, Mr. Richard Elworthy, finance director, admitted that the group is looking for acquisitions of up to £3m. "But we would like to see a hotel group of this size yielding profits of around £400,000 to £500,000 a year," he said.

In the 12 months to March 13 last, Associated increased pre-tax profits by 25 per cent to £2.2m.

Turnover rose from £13.3m to £16.6m with the leisure centres and amusement parks accounting for around 14 per cent, against 10 per cent previously. An extended summer season boosted second half profits to £90,000—a 50 per cent improvement on the previous comparative period. Trading so far this year is ahead.

No dividend as Jacksons B/E tumbles into loss

No dividend is forthcoming from Jacksons Bourne End following a loss in the 12 months to April 2. Although sales expanded from £3.44m to £4.47m, the group fell from a trading profit of £39,000 to a loss of £26,000. However, the group can credit extraordinary income, after tax, of £18,000, compared with £26,000 last year. There is no final dividend, against 2.76p gross and as there was no interim shareholders are dividendless, compared with 1975-76's total of 4.37p. The board explains that results improved in the second half, but current conditions, notably in the board mill, remain difficult. Extraordinary income represents the surplus on the sale of property.

BANK LEUMI LISHALE. Board plans to raise about £1.3m by offer to public of shares capital notes convertible into shares and capital notes (options).

JUCOBANKA. Group has a subscription agreement for issue of £20m floating rate notes due 1983—the first international public issue in dollars for a Yugoslav entity.

ROBERT JENKINS (HOLDINGS). Turnover for year to March 31, £14.71m (£13.48m). Pre-tax profit, £1.31m, compared with forecast of £1.1m, made at time of going public and £524,000 for previous year. Total payment, 27p gross.

Briefly

NEW CENTRAL WITS. New Central Witwatersrand Areas' pre-tax profits for year to June 30, £296.57m (£204.71m). Total dividend, 16.5 cents (14 cents).

FOLYMARK INT. Polymark International's turnover for 1976, £9.9m (£7.22m). Pre-tax profit, £741,000 (£569,000). Total gross payment, 3.75p—increase of 51 per cent. Treasury permission granted. Board expects 1977 to produce "further significant growth."

SINGLO-PURBECK. Acceptance of Singlo offer have been received on 158,771 Purbeck shares. Share offer has been extended and remains open for acceptance until July 19.

R. CARTWRIGHT (HOLDINGS). Rights issue taken up for 587,173 shares (93 per cent).

HAMPTON TRUST. Turnover for year to March 31, £274,000 (£311,000). Pre-tax loss, £94,000, against loss of £15,000. Board has streamlined expenses and believes group is now in a position to earn a modest profit.

ELISKEY SALE. Sir John Clark, chairman, reports sale of family interest of 15,829 shares—part of family interest.

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Group Results for Year ended 31st March, 1977

Further steady growth expected
Pre-tax profits increased by 30%
Earnings per share (basic) up 23.6%
Dividend increased by 10%

	1977	1976
	£000's	£000's
TURNOVER	182,698	151,001
OPERATING PROFIT	15,289	12,813
INTEREST	2,943	3,307
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	12,346	9,506
TAXATION	6,318	4,781
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	6,028	4,725
MINORITY INTERESTS	1,448	1,008
ATTRIBUTABLE TO SHAREHOLDERS (before extraordinary items)	4,580	3,717
EARNINGS PER SHARE		
BASIC—	20.2p	16.3p

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COMMODITIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Still higher cocoa prices are forecast

Further price advances in the London cocoa market in the short term are expected by Commodity Services, who point out that there is a continuing supply squeeze against good levels of demand.

At the opening call yesterday spot July cocoa went to a record high of £3,270 per tonne, £33 up on Tuesday night's close, although later the price eased back to £3,235. At the afternoon close spot July was £33 up on the day at £3,284 and Sept had advanced £18.50 to £2,950.50.

Most traders think that higher price levels will again be seen because of persisting bullish fundamentals. These factors, which combined on Tuesday to prompt a rush of chaotic, speculative, and short-covering buying, are concerned over the Brazilian crop because of rain-induced rot which could cut output 25 per cent; and reports that Ghana may seek shipment delays.

In addition, Dutch grinding figures for January released on Tuesday made a 1977 first-half total of 65,930 tonnes, up from 65,330 in the first half of 1976. The weekly commodity report, forecasts that December cocoa can be expected to rise to at least £3,000 per tonne, from £2,800 in the first half of 1977.

Chart Analysts in the latest day's close, because the breakthrough of old highs shows a lack of support, substantially higher prices.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

US\$ 5M BOND	10Y	15Y	20Y	30Y	40Y	50Y	60Y	70Y	80Y	90Y	100Y
1977	101.1	101.2	101.3	101.4	101.5	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1
1978	101.2	101.3	101.4	101.5	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2
1979	101.3	101.4	101.5	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3
1980	101.4	101.5	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4
1981	101.5	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5
1982	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6
1983	101.7	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7
1984	101.8	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8
1985	101.9	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9
1986	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0
1987	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1
1988	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2
1989	102.3	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3
1990	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4
1991	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5
1992	102.6	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6
1993	102.7	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7
1994	102.8	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8
1995	102.9	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9
1996	103.0	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0
1997	103.1	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1
1998	103.2	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2
1999	103.3	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3
2000	103.4	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4
2001	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5
2002	103.6	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6
2003	103.7	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7
2004	103.8	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8
2005	103.9	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9
2006	104.0	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0
2007	104.1	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1
2008	104.2	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2
2009	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3
2010	104.4	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4
2011	104.5	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5
2012	104.6	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6
2013	104.7	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7
2014	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8
2015	104.9	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9
2016	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0
2017	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1
2018	105.2	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2
2019	105.3	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3
2020	105.4	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4
2021	105.5	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5
2022	105.6	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6
2023	105.7	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7
2024	105.8	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8
2025	105.9	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9
2026	106.0	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0
2027	106.1	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1
2028	106.2	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2
2029	106.3	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3
2030	106.4	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4
2031	106.5	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5
2032	106.6	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6
2033	106.7	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7
2034	106.8	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8
2035	106.9	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9
2036	107.0	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0
2037	107.1	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1
2038	107.2	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2
2039	107.3	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3
2040	107.4	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4
2041	107.5	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5
2042	107.6	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6
2043	107.7	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7
2044	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8
2045	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9
2046	108.0	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0
2047	108.1	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1
2048	108.2	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2
2049	108.3	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3
2050	108.4	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4
2051	108.5	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5
2052	108.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6
2053	108.7	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7
2054	108.8	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8
2055	108.9	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9
2056	109.0	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0
2057	109.1	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1
2058	109.2	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2
2059	109.3	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3
2060	109.4	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4
2061	109.5	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5
2062	109.6	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6
2063	109.7	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7
2064	109.8	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8
2065	109.9	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9
2066	110.0	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0
2067	110.1	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1
2068	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2
2069	110.3	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3
2070	110.4	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4
2071	110.5	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5
2072	110.6	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5	111.6
2073	110.7	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5	111.6	111.7
2074	110.8	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5	111.6	111.7	111.8
2075	110.9	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5	111.6	111.7	111.8	111.9
2076	111.0	111.1	111.2	111.3	111.4	111.5	111.6	111.7	111.8		

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CHAMBERLAIN—On July 10, 1977, at St. Paul's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. Chamberlain, officiating, the marriage of Miss Catherine Mary Chamberlain, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, to Mr. John Robert Chamberlain, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, was solemnized. The bridesmaids were Misses J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The groomsmen were Messrs J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The bride wore a gown of ivory silk and lace. The groom wore a tuxedo. The ceremony was held at 11.00 a.m. The reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents. The bride and groom are now residing at 10, St. Paul's Church, London.

IN MEMORIAM

ROBERT—On July 10, 1977, at his residence, 10, St. Paul's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. Chamberlain, officiating, the marriage of Miss Catherine Mary Chamberlain, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, to Mr. John Robert Chamberlain, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, was solemnized. The bridesmaids were Misses J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The groomsmen were Messrs J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The bride wore a gown of ivory silk and lace. The groom wore a tuxedo. The ceremony was held at 11.00 a.m. The reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents. The bride and groom are now residing at 10, St. Paul's Church, London.

DEATHS

ALFRED—On July 10, 1977, at his residence, 10, St. Paul's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. Chamberlain, officiating, the marriage of Miss Catherine Mary Chamberlain, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, to Mr. John Robert Chamberlain, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, was solemnized. The bridesmaids were Misses J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The groomsmen were Messrs J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The bride wore a gown of ivory silk and lace. The groom wore a tuxedo. The ceremony was held at 11.00 a.m. The reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents. The bride and groom are now residing at 10, St. Paul's Church, London.

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BIRTHS

BOOKIN—On July 10, 1977, at St. Paul's Church, London, the Rev. Canon J. H. Chamberlain, officiating, the marriage of Miss Catherine Mary Chamberlain, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, to Mr. John Robert Chamberlain, son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Chamberlain, was solemnized. The bridesmaids were Misses J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The groomsmen were Messrs J. H. Chamberlain and J. H. Chamberlain. The bride wore a gown of ivory silk and lace. The groom wore a tuxedo. The ceremony was held at 11.00 a.m. The reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents. The bride and groom are now residing at 10, St. Paul's Church, London.

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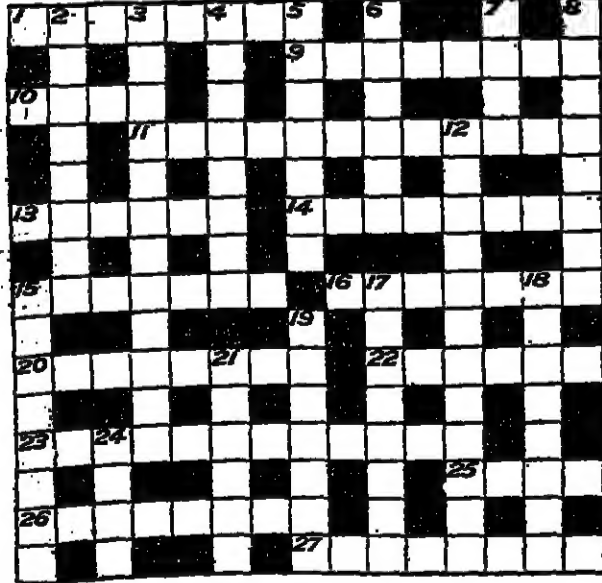
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,653



ACROSS

1 A chartered accountant. (8)

2 Apparently scholarly title. (8)

3 Superintending with a bird's eye view? (8)

4 Drink—the price of course is returned. (4)

5 Psychologist on board, and novelist connected with the theatre? (7, 5)

6 Tiny tot of spirits? (6)

7 Shellback quietly goes into the ground. (8)

8 Flood there's unusual after start of February? (7)

9 Sink a hundred in a meal? (7)

10 Poor Cora's spasm is a puzzle. (8)

11 Girl reversing vehicle—bit of a laugh. (6)

12 Butcher's bill was found in ledger, perhaps? (5, 7)

13 Tree retreat of unknown priest. (4)

14 Stupid fellow, poor lad, about one per cent? (8)

15 Perhaps kill many in odd surroundings. (8)

DOWN

1 Person grappling with a decisive argument? (8)

2 Something raised at board meeting—of course, the chair. (4)

3 Could be blamed in disorder of the jaw. (8)

What would you do...?

If you had called on Miriam and found this: a damp room, with rotted floorboards; no hot water; no inside toilet. And a sad, despairing old lady of 75, cut off from everyone, not knowing what to do, and with no chance of rehusing.

The experienced visitor did the one thing that could make an immediate difference—encouraged her to come to the local Day Centre. Help to start another; or a day hospital treatment or light work centre: £5 or £500, it will do wonders for the old in need.

Other volunteers need food and medicines for old people in disaster-stricken countries. Be a doctor for day? Send £3 to bring back sight to a cataract victim; or wheel in a bed to an under-equipped hospital in Asia or Africa—£100 provides one in memory of someone dear to you. Or inscribe a loved name on the Dedication Plaque of a day centre you help with £150.

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The Early Bird catches the ... Farmhouse?

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